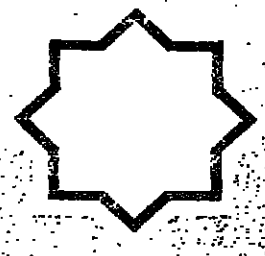


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اسبوعية سياسية مستقلة

King, Netanyahu summit crucial to future of peace process

By Ahmed Shaker

Special to The Star

A RICH agenda is awaiting the Jordanian-Israeli summit that is due to be held this week between His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. He is expected to arrive in Jordan on Monday, the third country he visits since he was elected last May. He had already visited Washington and Egypt.

Few hours before Netanyahu's arrival, King Hussein will be concluding a two-day visit to Damascus to exchange viewpoints with the Syrian President Hafez Assad on the stalled peace process and of ways to re-activate the peace negotiations.

Among issues expected to be discussed by King Hussein and Mr. Netanyahu are ways of reviving the peace accords that were previously signed in the fields of water, transport and agriculture. Also on the agenda, are the release of Jordanian prisoners from Israeli jails and the resumption of negotiations with Palestinians to put an end to Israeli violations of building set-

tlements and the delay in the redeployment of its troops in Hebron.

Since the Jordan-Israel peace treaty was approved by 115 votes in the 120-member Knesset, nothing is expected to change on that score. Yet, observers give the summit special importance.

Netanyahu wanted Amman to be the capital of the first Arab country he visits, but official sources said he changed his decision upon the request of the Kabarti government.

Jordanian officials say that such a move would have upset Egypt who may have interpreted the visit as a step to push her out of the peace process. Another reason for Netanyahu's delay of the visit was because of King Hussein's departure to London for a minor operation.

But on the eve of Netanyahu's visit to Amman, many questions are being posed. Is he still adopting a hardline policy which was revealed in Washington? Or has he become more flexible as shown during his visit to Cairo last month?

Dealing with Netanyahu won't be an easy matter as an official source said. Netanyahu refuses to change his position which is based on his "election rhetoric." He claims that he won because his policies are admired by the majority in Israel. In addition to that, he has his coalition partners to consider.

He also claims that his concepts and principles related to peace, Jerusalem and settlements are the cornerstone of the Zionist ideology.

A high-level Jordanian official says that such attitudes won't prevent us from giving him a chance to explain his policy. A dialogue will show whether he is really serious about peace or not.

We can't forget that it is his party, Likud who made peace with Egypt and it is he who started the Madrid and Washington peace talks with the Arabs, the official added. However, we must bear in mind that Likud considers Sinai differently from the Golan Heights and the West Bank. This is because of historical, religious

and military considerations, he continued.

Many proposals, expectations and analyses are made regarding Netanyahu's attitude, among them is the "Jordanian option". This is rejected by Jordanians, Palestinians and Arabs. However, Netanyahu may seek to revive such an option.

However, the visit would be primarily, an exploratory one, and Netanyahu won't be likely to press such an issue, because of the backlash it may create.

Analysts suggest that Netanyahu will discuss some points that may carry the basis for the "alternative Homeland" but this would be made very diplomatically.

He will praise the Jordanian-Israeli relationship and stress the fact that Jordan forms no danger to Israel.

On a more controversial, Netanyahu is expected to call for a new agreement that cancels the Oslo accords. The Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty might also be subject to what he calls "amendments", in an attempt to satisfy the policy of

Likud.

The Jordanian-Israeli agreement may be taken by Netanyahu as an outlet for Likud to reject the Palestinian independent state and to increase settlements.

According to expected Israeli proposals adopted by Netanyahu, the idea of a "semi-state" at Gaza will be introduced. As for the West Bank, Israel will be master of the land being administratively linked to Jordan. Netanyahu opposes strongly any attempt to divide Jerusalem.

Although, Netanyahu fully perceives that these proposals are rejected by Jordan which insists on Palestinian rights in self-determination and building their independent state. He is expected to tackle them in an intelligent diplomatic way.

Jordanian politicians and decision-makers are well aware of Israeli intentions and would strongly reject them if they seek to hinder a comprehensive peace solution. ■

Hervé de Charette passe par la Jordanie
Voir page 12



Students protest increase in tuition fees

AMMAN (Star)—More than 100 representatives of student unions in public universities staged a sit-in opposite Parliament Wednesday to protest the recent increase in fees for Master and PhD programs. The sit-in followed a series of extensive protest campaigns against the Higher Education Council's (HEC) decision last month to increase tuition fees by three times, including credit hours, tuition and enrollment.

The sit-in was organized by the founding council of the General Union of Jordanian Students. The council submitted an appeal to the Lower House deputies. Entitled as "an urgent appeal from the representatives of the students to the representatives of the nation," it expressed students' dismay at the "unjust decision." The appeal described the recent hike as harmful to the character and stability of students. "It [the decision] ignores the interests and rights of students under the pretext of reducing the increasing financial deficit," the appeal stated.

The students promised to stand together as one bloc, using all legal means to bring down such a decision. They called upon deputies to force the government to take to court cases of administrative and financial corruption, especially those relating to the educational field. ■

Clinton reveals anxiety over West Bank reports of plans to expand settlements

By Thomas W. Lippman
LA Times Washington Post
News Service

THE FIRST hints of strain in the relationship between the Clinton administration and the new government in Israel appeared Tuesday as President Clinton expressed anxiety about reports of Israeli plans for expanding settlements and building roads in the occupied West Bank.

He said he does not want "to blame (the Israelis) for something they haven't done yet," and added that he expects Israel to carry out fully agreements it made to negotiate such matters with the Palestinians.

"We are concerned about anything that could affect the peace process adversely," the president said at a White House news conference with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

"We expect and believe that Israel will adhere to the agreements it has already made," Clinton said. He said he was assured by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that the Likud government installed last month would honor agreements made by its more dovish Labor predecessor, "so until I have evidence that that is not so, I don't think I should go further."

The president was responding to questions from Arab journalists about reports that the Netanyahu government is considering an end to the ban on new Jewish

settlements in the West Bank and has revived plans to build two new highways through the West Bank and new bridges to the Golan Heights.

If Israel were to undertake such projects, it would be the clearest sign so far that the Likud government is backing away from the "land-for-peace" bargain endorsed by Labor, a bargain that has been the cornerstone of Mideast peace negotiations since Israel seized the West Bank from Jordan and the Golan Heights from Syria in the 1967 war.

The United States through several administrations has endorsed the land-for-peace trade-off and has held the expansion of West Bank settlements to be an "obstacle" to Arab-Israeli peace. No US positions have changed "and they won't change," Clinton said.

Netanyahu ran on a platform of taking a much tougher line in



Mubarak and Clinton meet in the White House this week

negotiations with the Palestinians and Syrians than did his predecessor, and his cabinet includes officials such as infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon who believe Israel should keep most of the West Bank and favor an aggressive settlement construction policy.

In a meeting Tuesday with Washington Post editors and reporters, Trade and Industry Minister Natan Sharansky said Netanyahu and most cabinet members favor growth of existing settlements through natural

population increase but not the development of new settlements.

"There is no policy of deliberately encouraging or sending people out there," he said. It is not clear, however, how the government would respond if militant Zionists were to set up unauthorized settlements, as they have done in the past.

Clinton said the policy of Netanyahu's Labor predecessors of letting existing settlements grow naturally "was not considered to be a serious violation of understandings that were exist-

ing at that time." The implication was that development of new settlements would be a "serious violation" unless they were approved in negotiations with Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority, as Clinton said is required. Mubarak—who in nearly 15 years as president has evolved from reticent air force officer to television-comfortable personality able to joke in English—said he and Clinton agreed on "most" of the subjects they had discussed, including ways to combat terrorism, the need to continue the quest for peace and the evolution of Egypt's economy.

The most important message of his three-day visit here, Egyptian officials said, is that the Clinton administration must not let itself be paralyzed by election-year anxieties over the Jewish vote and must stay involved to ensure that Netanyahu keeps those commitments.

"The continuation of an active American role is essential to the success of our endeavors," Mubarak said.

His foreign minister, Amr Mousa, told reporters that Egypt is concerned that Arafat is "very exposed," having committed the Palestinians to peace while now facing the possibility that Israel will not deliver all that they had hoped to gain. "It's up to all of us, including Israel, to help him," Mousa said. ■

Talk of reshuffle mounts as cabinet splits over issues

By Hamdan Al Hajj

Special to The Star

LESS THAN six months since Prime Minister Abdel Karim Kabarti formed his first government, political, parliamentary and press circles are now whispering loudly about the possibility of Mr. Kabarti carrying out a cabinet reshuffle soon.

Like all government reshuffles in Jordan, nothing is certain until the final minute. But political circles expect the reshuffle to be major with a number of new faces coming in for the first time. One of the names being talked about is that of former Islamic Action Front (IAF) deputy Ahmad Al Kassasbeh, who abstained at the vote of confidence session, a move that brought him closer to Mr. Kabarti. He is expected to be offered the Awqaf and Religious Affairs portfolio. Deputy Abed Mousa Al Nahar is expected to join as minister of public works or minister of youth.

Minister of Higher Education Abdallah Nsoor is expected to be named first deputy prime minister with Minister of Public Works Abdel



Kabarti's cabinet: Internal splits?

Hadi Majali becoming second deputy to Kabarti. Both men will probably change ministries as well.

Current Minister of Youth deputy Mohammad Daoudieh is expected to be named minister of education and Dr. Munther Al Masri, who now runs that ministry, will be given the Ministry of Higher Education.

Observers believe Mr. Kabarti will try to downsize the 31-member cabinet by canceling the three posts of ministers of state.

But former Prime Minister and Lower House deputy Taher Al Masri told The Star that he does not believe Mr. Kabarti needs to carry out a reshuffle at this time or at least until the end of the current extraordinary session of Parliament.

Continued on page 2

Vestiges of Alexandria's cosmopolitan past rapidly disappearing

By John Lancaster
LA Times-Washington Post
News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt—Once this was the home of the Alexandrian library, the greatest center of learning in all antiquity. The Pharos lighthouse, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, towered above a bustling harbor. Euclid developed his theories of geometry here.

More recently, from the Victorian era through the 1950s, Alexandria was known for its cosmopolitan blend of Arab and European cultures. Women in evening gowns rode the tram to the opera. Celebrities like Somerset Maugham and Victor Mature sipped drinks in the lobby of the Cecil Hotel. And the city was so obsessed with cleanliness, older residents recall, that its streets were scrubbed each night with soap and water.

"There were so many elegant ladies," says Christine Constantinou, a Greek citizen in her late seventies whose taverna

and restaurant, Elite, has occupied the same street corner since 1952. "It was like a little Paris."

Not anymore. Purged of most foreign residents in the late 1950s, overwhelmed by industry, pollution and rampant population growth, the Alexandria of that era is a wistful memory. Now, even the memories are threatened: Under relentless pressure from developers, the city's once-impressive inventory of 19th- and early 20th-century buildings is shrinking fast.

Among the many threatened properties is the grand Italianate villa once occupied by British novelist Lawrence Durrell, who famously described the city's cosmopolitan heyday in *The Alexandria Quartet*. The derelict home has become a rallying point for Alexandrians struggling to save the remnants of their city's cultural heritage.

"The building itself doesn't have a lot of architectural merit," says Mohammed Awad, an architect who is leading the

fight to save the city's old buildings. "But it should be protected because it's a link to the memory of Lawrence Durrell and it's part of the whole cosmopolitan memory of the city. Save the memory by saving the house."

To classical scholars, Alexandria is renowned as a center of commerce and culture during the Greek and Roman empires. Alexander the Great, who founded the city in 332 BC, is said to be buried here. But with the exception of a few relics—including red-granite blocks from the Pharos lighthouse—the Alexandria of antiquity is mostly hidden beneath the modern city.

The city's so-called cosmopolitan period dates from the early 19th century, when Mehmet Ali, an Albanian who ruled Egypt on behalf of the Ottoman empire, excavated a canal from the harbor to the Nile, reviving Alexandria as Egypt's major port.

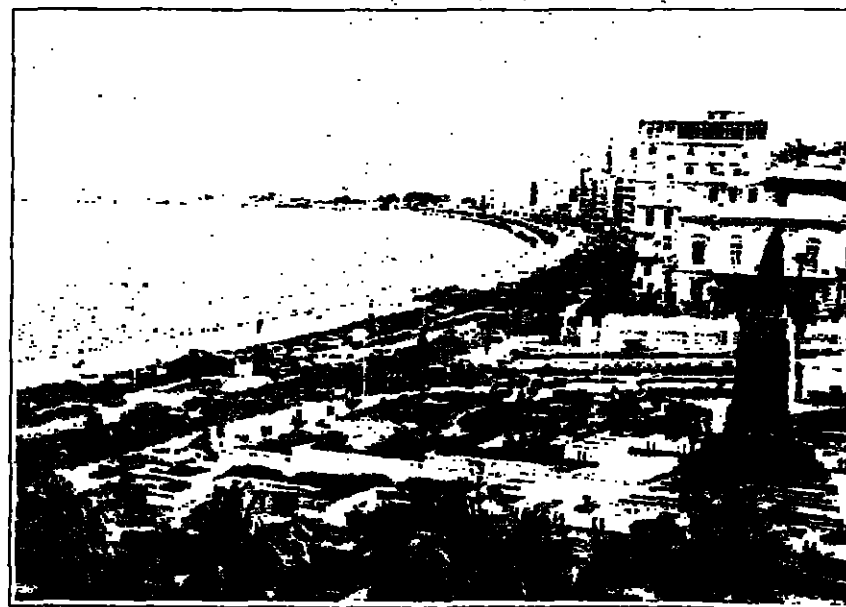
With its sandy beaches and gentle climate, "Alex" soon became a popular vacation spot for wealthy Egyptians and European expatriates. Graceful villas

sprouted along the seashore.

Durrell, who died in 1990, served as British press attaché in Alexandria toward the end of World War II. The experience was grist for four experimental novels—"Justine," "Balthazar," "Mountolive" and "Clea"—that make up the "Alexandria Quartet," a story of romance and intrigue set in the 1940s and 1950s.

An instant hit in the West, the book was roundly damned by Egyptian scholars, who saw scant resemblance between Durrell's Alexandria—a place of licentiousness and decay—and the graceful city that they knew. Durrell was accused of using the city's Arabs as little more than colorful props for a mostly European cast.

But in describing the city's unique social fabric—"five races, five languages, a dozen creeds"—Durrell was on to something. The city's cosmopolitan nature was reflected in its cultural life, which included a symphony orchestra and opera performances. French, Greek, Italian, Arabic and English filled the city's classrooms.



Alexandria—the city of culture

One of the largest foreign communities was Greek. "We had schools, churches, homes for old people," says Constantinou, the restaurant owner. "Now, the young are leaving, and the old people are afraid."

In fact, most have already left: Con-

stantinou estimates the remaining Greek community at about 600, down from a peak of more than 100,000.

The past can still be glimpsed in restaurants like Elite, where Nubian waiters

Continued on page 3



JORDAN WEEK

An unconventional report on Jordanian news and views edited by Marwan Al Asmar

King returns home, condemns Atlanta attack



■ Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor returned home on Monday after a visit to Britain and Switzerland. They were greeted at the airport by HRH Crown Prince Hassan, members of the Royal Family, Prime Minister Abdel Karim Al Kabariti and other high ranking state officials.

The King, who underwent a minor surgery in London, said his health was good. He told reporters that he strongly condemns the terrorist attack in Atlanta, where the Olympic games are being held, and the downing of the TWA plane over the Atlantic two weeks ago. "The perpetrators can not be affiliated or considered as belonging to the human race as they are stripped of all sense of humanity and they lack any sense of morals or conscience," the King said. He said he will be embarking on important diplomatic activities soon.

On Tuesday, the King telephoned Syrian President Hafez Assad and congratulated him on the victory of Syrian athlete Ghada Shouaa in the heptathlon events in Atlanta. Shouaa won the gold medal in that event. On Tuesday it was announced that the King will be visiting Syria on Saturday to meet with President Assad. It was also announced that King Hussein will travel to Saudi Arabia in early August where he will meet with King Fahd.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will meet with the King on Monday in Amman, it was also announced.

One more for the road!

■ Very soon we'll be called a nation of newspapers. This could be a good thing if we had what is termed as a reading public. However, we don't. Despite this, the Prime Ministry keeps granting licenses to new weeklies. The latest on the market is *Tariq Al Mustaqbal*. It is an Arab weekly that is headed by Mohammad Amr. It is not yet known what kind of news this

weekly will tackle, but all I can say is good luck!

Road accidents

■ Road accidents are today a serious national issue. More than 400 people are killed annually through traffic accidents. There are also more than 12,000 injuries. What is more staggering is that these accidents cost the country more than JD 100 million in material losses. Being run over by cars con-

stitutes 47 percent of all deaths and 42% of all injuries. However, these do not form more than 20% of all accidents according to Fakhri Iskandar, director of the Traffic Department. More than 60% of these accidents involve children and youths.

Gulf to Jordan

■ More and more people from the Gulf are spending their holidays in Jordan. The Minister of Tourism, Dr. Saleh Irsheidat, said that the number of tourists from the Gulf since the beginning of this year till now has reached 193,300, that is an increase of 40%. This is five percent higher than the same time last year.

What is happening

■ We don't know who to believe any more when it comes to the issue of bread prices. Recently, and in reaction to the government's decision on bread, the Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Mustapha Sheikhat threatened to resign. However, it is argued that he was persuaded by the rank and file of his Democratic Unionist Party to withdraw his resignation. However, *Al Majd* argues that there are two views within the party. One that wants him to resign, while the other trend urges Sheikhat to stay in the government so he can be more effective.

Bread price hike: What to do next?

■ The government may now be contemplating a climb down on the price of bread, well, to put it more fairly, four steps down. Instead of hiking bread to 250 fils per kilogram, they may now only increase it to 210 fils, according to *Ad Dustour*. However, this plan is still being very seriously studied by the government. Others say that there will now be three types of bread and these will have different price tags. The first type, the one that is sold currently at 85 fils, will increase to 180 fils, brown bread between 160-170 fils while the white French bread

will be the most expensive at 250 fils.

Jordan wants more from peace treaty

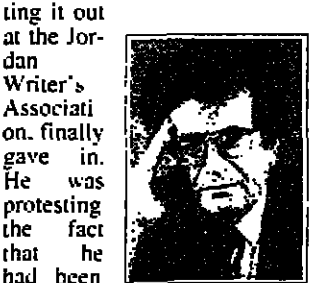
■ People in the country may be feeling fed up of the economic situation. Peace with Israel has promised so much, yet, in fact, nothing substantial has materialized.

People know that and the government knows that too. The recent visit of the head of the Investment Encouragement Corp., Mr. Taleb Al Rifai to Tel Aviv has been precisely to reactivate the economic investment opportunities that were much talked about when the Jordan-Israeli peace treaty was signed in October 1994. Jordan seems to be pushing Israel to start on the projects in the Jordan valley that were the objects of so much planning.

Israel is the prime beneficiary of the fruits of peace receiving over \$50 billion of overseas investments in 1995.

Poet ends hunger strike

■ Jordanian poet Muhammad Laffi who has been on a hunger strike for the last two weeks, has decided to give it a rest. Laffi, who has been sit-



ting it out at the Jordan Writer's Association, finally gave in. He was protesting the fact that he had been unemployed for a very long time. It was only when Ihsan Ramzi, the director of the



Jalal Rifai/Ad Dustour

Elections for NAWC soon

■ A three-stage election of the National Assembly of Women Committees (NAWC) is set to take place soon, said judge Taghrid Hikmat, chairwoman of the election's Supreme Committee. Coordinators of the supporting committees are to be elected by all the members of NAWC in the first stage, scheduled on 1st, 3rd and 4th August. Four days later, the elected coordinators will choose the members of the local committees in the second stage. These, in turn, will vote for the supreme body of the assembly, the Higher Council.

The Founding Council of the assembly has stated that every 100-150 members will be represented by one coordinator. According to the Council, this arrangement is supposed to facilitate communication throughout the national network. Besides, activities, plans and programs are expected to be carried out and evaluated.

Mrs Hikmat has said that coordinators in some districts in the Kingdom have been chosen uncontested.



Judge Hikmat

Albaraka Group Financial services sector launches Internet site

ALBARAKA FINANCIAL Sector Group Site on the Internet (www.albaraka.com) was launched last month during the group's global financial services sector's meeting held in Amman. Constructed as an information rich site, with added value and interest, Albaraka.com contains the following:

■ Pages with the Group Financial Services Sector's bank and companies information, including their services and prices of their products.

■ The answers of the Group Islamic jurisprudence board to the questions of the participants of its various debates held during the past years.

■ A form is made available for the site visitors to submit their personal questions on Islamic economics.

These questions will afterward be transferred to the Group's Islamic Jurisprudence board to answer through the Internet.

■ The site prayer time page where the visitor can inquire about the prayer time at any city in the world including the Qibla direction, exhibitions.

The construction of the site was awarded to the Arabian Company for Communications and Publishing. <http://www.albaraka.com>

Radio and Television Corp., visited the association and offered the poet a post in the corporation that he ended his hunger strike. Laffi now becomes a full time advisor with a paid salary.

Aqaba recession grows

■ Aqaba is down in the dumps. Although a tourist city, it is presently experiencing a recession especially in the tourist and commercial sectors. The situation is becoming so bad as Israeli travel agencies are now marketing the southern touristic parts of the country among European and American tourists according to *Al Quds*. They are offering foreign tourists a free day in Petra, Wadi Rum and the Dead Sea.

Talk of reshuffle mounts as cabinet splits

Continued from page 1

He said that the government and the people have many other things on their minds.

But recent developments are said to have prepared Mr Kabariti for the reshuffle move. Observers believe the government is facing internal opposition to its intention to end bread subsidies. In particular, two ministers are said to have expressed their objection to all or part of the government plan, namely Minister of Administrative Development Dr Kamal Nasser and Minister of Agriculture Mustafa Sheikhat.

The cabinet decided Tuesday night to postpone its adoption of the bread subsidies issue and the Lower House is expected to debate government decision and the food supply policy of the Kingdom.

But that is not to say that Mr Kabariti is backing down. He is not expected to change his mind as a result of the fiery speeches some deputies will deliver during the deliberations.



Murad

Murad stresses need for economic integration

Amman (Petra)—Jordan with all its capabilities seeks Arab economic integration and the establishment of an Arab economic cartel which is capable of dealing with the latest international developments, according to the president of the Union of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce (UJCC) Hayder Murad.

During a meeting on Tuesday with the visiting Algerian Minister of Commerce Abdel Karim Hirschawi and the accompanying delegation, Mr Murad said UJCC is interested in any cooperation and coordination with any Arab country springing out of its economic reality which is free and open to the world.

He added that Jordan's volume of trade with Algeria during 1995 reached \$7.5 million in exports and \$8 million imports in favor of Jordan.

Mr Murad pointed out to the importance of exchanging visits and holding industrial exhibitions between the two countries to give businessmen and peoples of both countries the chance to get acquainted with industrial products, investments and economic legislations in both countries in order to boost the volume of trade.

Mr Hirschawi said economic development in both countries depends on the activities and role of businessmen in various economic fields in addition to holding meetings with businessmen of the public and private sectors in both countries.

The Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hashem Dabbas received at the same day at the ministry the Algerian minister and the accompanying delegation. Dr Dabbas expressed interest in benefiting from Algerian expertise in the field of oil and gas exploration. He also stressed Jordan's keenness on establishing gas pipelines as used in Algeria, in order to link Jordanian cities and towns with gas networks for domestic purposes.

Jordan has dug during the past years more than 90 wells for the exploration of oil, it has also given oil and gas exploration concessions to a number of international companies. Dr Dabbas told the Algerian minister. On his part, the Algerian minister extended an invitation to Jordanian experts to visit Algeria and have an overview of Algerian achievements in these fields.

Minister of Transport Nasir Lawzi met the visiting Algerian and discussed transportation agreements signed between the two countries, possibilities of reaching other agreements especially in the field of land and sea transportation.

LOWE condemns planned demolition of 10 Palestinian homes in Nablus

NABLUS, WEST Bank—Ten houses, located in an older neighborhood on the borders of the Nablus municipality, were served demolition orders by the Israeli army on 25 July. This neighborhood of some 30 homes has been standing since the 1970s, and receives municipal services like water and electricity from the Nablus municipality.

These homes, however, are located just meters away from the Nablus municipal limits, in the so-called Area C of the West Bank that is still occupied by the Israeli army.

Some of the houses of the neighborhood have building permits, but for others the Israeli military administration refused to issue building licenses (a common method routinely used by the Israeli government to restrict the natural growth of Arab communities in the West Bank and Jerusalem).

These administrative demolition orders for having no building permit give only fourteen days for appeal—an inadequate period particularly since the total blockade of the West Bank is still in effect and home-owners are unable to enter Jerusalem to seek legal aid.

LAWE—The Palestinian Society for the Protection of Human Rights and the Environment condemned this cruel practice on the part of the Israeli government.

LAWE said continuing house demolition is clearly politically motivated, as the Israeli military administration in the West Bank attempts to clear Arab homes from the still-occupied Area C.

Fifty-three homes have been destroyed and over 187 house demolition orders have been served in this year alone (a marked increase from years past), all of which in Area C of the West Bank or in Jerusalem.

House demolition, aside from the total brutality of destroying a family's home and security, is in contravention of the peace accords which forbid a changing of the status quo of the West Bank.

Eliminating or reducing an Arab presence in areas of the West Bank represents a clear violation of this principle.

LAWE called on the international community to express its condemnation of the brutal practice of destroying homes, and to highlight the fact that these moves violate the letter and spirit of the beleaguered peace accords.

It asked activists to register protest by fax to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, at fax: (972) (2) 664-838 and the General Commander of the Occupied Territories Uzi Dayan at (972) (2) 305-333.

USAir says British Airways-American Airlines alliance violates contract/competition laws

ARLINGTON—USAir brought suit against British Airways and American Airlines for seeking to undermine USAir's competitive position and to limit overall competition in US-UK markets.

In a suit filed in federal district court in New York, USAir said that British Airways in its pursuit of an alliance with American Airlines has violated provisions of its 1993 alliance agreement with USAir to the detriment of USAir. The suit also states that both British Airways and American Airlines are in violation of US antitrust laws that prohibit conduct that harms competition.

"Our action taken in response to the proposed British Airways-American Airlines alliance advances and underscores the absolute determination of USAir to become a viable competitor in key US-UK markets and is in the best interests of USAir, its shareholders, employees and the travelling public," said Stephen M. Wolf, Chairman and CEO of USAir.

USAir's agreement with British Airways required both parties best efforts to complete and advance their alliance. Consistent with these obligations USAir divested itself of valuable routes to London redeployed aircraft and employees altered schedules, invested in joint marketing initiatives and undertook other efforts to further its alliance with British Airways. The proposed accord between British Airways and American Airlines as presently constituted is inconsistent with British Airways' requirements and obligations under its existing contracts with USAir, the company said.

USAir said British Airways is in violation of US antitrust laws including the Clayton Act which prohibits acquisitions or holdings of stock or assets that may tend to substantially lessen competition. USAir also said that British Airways and American Airlines are in violation of both sections 1 and 2 of the Sherman Antitrust Act. Section 1 prohibits agreements that restrain competition, section 2 prohibits the monopolization or attempted monopolization of any market.



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"Our action taken in response to the proposed British Airways-American Airlines alliance advances and underscores the absolute determination of USAir to become a viable competitor in key US-UK markets and is in the best interests of USAir, its shareholders, employees and the travelling public," said Stephen M. Wolf, Chairman and CEO of USAir.

USAir's agreement with British Airways required both parties best efforts to complete and advance their alliance. Consistent with these obligations USAir divested itself of valuable routes to London redeployed aircraft and employees altered schedules, invested in joint marketing initiatives and undertook other efforts to further its alliance with British Airways. The proposed accord between British Airways and American Airlines as presently constituted is inconsistent with British Airways' requirements and obligations under its existing contracts with USAir, the company said.

USAir said British Airways is in violation of US antitrust laws including the Clayton Act which prohibits acquisitions or holdings of stock or assets that may tend to substantially lessen competition. USAir also said that British Airways and American Airlines are in violation of both sections 1 and 2 of the Sherman Antitrust Act. Section 1 prohibits agreements that restrain competition, section 2 prohibits the monopolization or attempted monopolization of any market.

Talk of reshuffle mounts as cabinet splits

Continued from page 1

He said that the government and the people are not in a state of mind to accept a reshuffle. But recent developments are said to have prepared the ground for a reshuffle. Observers believe the government is in a state of internal opposition to the reshuffle. In the past, two ministers have been removed from the cabinet. But this time, it is said that the government is in a state of internal opposition to the reshuffle. In the past, two ministers have been removed from the cabinet. But this time, it is said that the government is in a state of internal opposition to the reshuffle. In the past, two ministers have been removed from the cabinet. But this time, it is said that the government is in a state of internal opposition to the reshuffle.



Murad al-Murad stresses need for economic integration

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A partnership with Europe is a must for development, panel stresses



Mr. Al Moasher (left), Dr. Al Saket (center), and Mr. Ammari.

By Munther Hamdan
Star Staff Writer

WITH THE formation of the Jordan-Europe Business Association (JEBBA), the economic relations between Jordan and the countries of the European Union enters a new phase of cooperation. The association is one of the many results of the Amman Economic summit that was held in October 1995. It stressed the need for more investment in the region and the enhancement of the role of the private sector.

In an attempt to assess the already established relations between Jordan and Europe, the JEBBA held last Tuesday a panel discussion in Philadelphia Hotel in Amman. The event was opened by HRH Prince Firas bin Ra'ad, honorary president of the JEBBA, and attended by prominent Jordanian and foreign economists and businessmen.

"The decision to establish relations between Jordan and the European countries has been adopted by the European Parliament in 1994 and widely discussed in the Barcelona conference that was held last November at the EU Mediterranean foreign ministers meeting," said chairman of the panel Basam Al Saket, a former minister and a top economist.

Dr. Al Saket stated that there is an economic movement between Europe and the Middle East that is currently going on. He added that Europe's exports to the Middle East reached \$50 billion while the exports of this region to Europe were \$35 billion.

The decision to go for a joint partnership with the EU was studied carefully by successive governments in the last decade. HM King Hussein's letter of Appointment to Prime Minister Kabarti, earlier this year, pointed out to the importance of building a strong EU-Jordanian relations.

"Jordan wouldn't have been able to enter into a partnership without a carefully studied national plan and without being fully prepared," said Mr. Ammari, leading businessman and a former finance minister.

He added that there is a need for the adoption of a policy of openness on all levels. "This will transfer Jordan from a developing country into one of the developed countries."

Jordan is able to be an active member in the new partnership with Europe since it has adopted an economic reform policies. Panelists agreed that without building economic relations with the international community and creating a system of free trade, it will cease to grow.

Mr. Muasher said that the government in this country must boost democracy, stop its constant interference in the private sector's affairs and facilitate investment. He added that there should be more coordination between the public and private sectors on the one hand and between the private sectors on the other.

According to the businessman, facilitating investment requires the activation of the Intellectual Property Rights and reconsideration of customs fees. "The Government performance in encouraging privatization has not reached the required levels," he added.

However, Dr. Nabeel Ammari, secretary-general of the Ministry of Planning, downplayed the optimistic tone of Muasher's speech saying that Jordan is still suffering from a bad economic situation. He said that Jordan suffers from a deficit in the budget and trade balance, increased unemployment, and an increase in the number of people who are below the poverty line. "Jordan's most acute problem is its small market," he added.

Ammari said that Jordan's EU partnership agreement has not been signed yet. The agreement consists of three divisions. First, the political and the security issues which is a precondition to a safe and free trade. The second is the economic and financial side which recommends the setting up of a free trade zone in a transitional period of 12 years. The last part of the agreement is the social which calls on the elimination of immigration controls that force the people of the south to move to the north to improve their living standards.

Jordan-Israel joint airport under fire

AMMAN (Star)—The joint Jordan-Israeli venture concerning the setting up of an airport in Aqaba that would serve both countries have recently come under fire from the Israeli Ministry of Transport. With a change of government, it seems that there won't be a joint airport for the people of Aqaba and Eilat, after all.

In the past, the ministry had given such a facility its unconditional approval, but it now says that the joint airport should not replace the one that exists in Eilat. The ministry proposes that the joint airport have its airfield in Jordan and two terminals, one in each country, with the Israeli terminal serving international flights destined for Eilat. Local flights, however, would continue to land in Eilat.

On another level, and according to the Ministry, the bus route between Amman and Tel Aviv has proved a major success. The buses are full on Sunday and Thursday in particular and almost full on other days. Most passengers are either Israeli Jews holidaying in Jordan or Israeli Arabs visiting families.

Vestiges of Alexandria's cosmopolitan past rapidly disappearing

Continued from page 1

In white dinner jackets circulate amid blue-checked tablecloths and art-exhibition posters from the 1950s. Nearby is Pastroudis, the patisserie and cafe where Durrell's characters used to meet for glasses of arak.

Alexandrians trace the beginning of the city's decline to 1956, when most foreigners left Egypt or were expelled by then-President Gamal Abdel Nasser in the aftermath of the Suez crisis.

Their departure had a predictable effect, as movie houses closed and foreign performers dropped the city

from their itineraries. "Hardly anything comes to Alex," says Sahar Hamouda, who teaches English literature at Alexandria University. "They all play in Cairo." Even the American consulate, a fixture in Alexandria since the early 19th century, recently shut its doors.

"It used to be a semi-European city," says Awad of the preservation society. "Now it's similar to any other city in the country. It's totally Egyptianized. Today's Alexandria is a monoglot city—one race, one language, one creed and fundamentally Islamic."



Prime Minister Abdel Karim Kabariti receives Mr. Abdel Rahman Al Mansouri, the Saudi assistant foreign minister at the Prime Ministry, Tuesday. Mr. Mansouri delivered a message from the Saudi Foreign Minister concerning His Majesty King Hussein's eminent visit to Saudi Arabia that is expected to take place in the first half of this month. The peace process and bilateral relations were also discussed.

President of the JPA, Seif Al Sharif '...We aim to regulate the profession so that it adheres to its ethics....'

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Seif Al Sharif, the newly elected president of the Jordanian Press Association (JPA), is also the general manager of the Jordan Press and Publishing Company (Ad Dustour). He talked to The Star's Raed Al Abed about the latest development in the press field. Excerpts follow:

Many accused the previous JPA council of negligence and that it did not do its job properly towards journalists and the profession. Do you agree with this view and what is your agenda for improving the situation of the association?

I do not agree with the view that the previous JPA council was negligent. I was the vice president. The council was doing its job and made all efforts to serve the profession.

In the past, we did not give the JPA the proper media promotion, because the previous council had no determined agenda, and this is the only difference between the current council and the past one. Currently, our agenda, has a specific framework, hopefully to be achieved within a two-year period.

I am personally committed to achieving my program which I presented to the general assembly.

I am optimistic with regard to the new council, and I believe that we will push for more gains to the association and journalists.

You succeeded in releasing three chief editors who were arrested recently. Despite the government's confirmations that it will soften its hand on the press, journalists still worry. What will be your role in diminishing such practices?

The term "arrest" is wrong. They were only held in custody. We in the association reject such a measure against journalists, because holding any person in custody is conditioned by two factors: first, when the person's address is unknown, so they hold him till the time of trial. Secondly, when the authority wants to protect a person who committed a crime from any revenge attempt. The kind of crime that journalists may commit do not require such a procedure. It is a crime related to press and publication, and the address of the journalist is known, so there is no need to imprison a journalist.

Of course we are not against the legal procedures of trying any journalist who violates the law. In this regard, we demand the reactivation of article 49 of the Press Association Law, which permits the association's representatives to attend the legal hearings.

Concerning press and publication offenses, I differentiate between custody which we oppose and trials, which we agree on.

In the past 10 days, three chief editors were held in custody, something we considered as an attack on the press. In fact, it was not so, it was a kind of pressure on some of the chief editors of the weekly press, because some said it bypassed some redlines, particularly the moral side.

I was promised by the Prime Minister, the Minister of Information and the Minister of Justice to stop such procedures, because they distort the image of Jordan outside.

What are the main points

of conflict between the JPA and the government over the draft law of the association which was presented by the government, and to which you proposed some amendments?

We disagree with the government over some articles in the draft law. But I am optimistic that the law will pass through its constitutional stages without obstacles, because we believe it is an achievement to sit and converse with the government, which has the right to present draft laws.

The draft law was handed to the JPA two weeks ago; we presented amendments to it. We agreed on many articles and argued over others.

What are the points of disagreement?

These are limited to six main articles; the first concerns the definition of press and publication institution and the definition of a journalist. The government wants to include the employees of the Jordan Radio and Television Corp., as members of the association. The government defines the press institution as that which spreads news and information, through readable, visual or audio means. Our definition of the press institution is that which only deals with print media.

Another point is that, we believe that journalists should work on a full time basis, the government say they should not.

As far as the subject of the disciplinary council is concerned, the government wants to assign a judge to head the council, who does not belong to the press body. We oppose this and insist that the judge should be from within the press body, and who has at least 15 years experience in the field.

We both agreed on a mandatory membership in the association.

How are you going to deal with the sensational press, that publishes material which contradicts the ethics and morals of the nation?

In the meeting of the general assembly in April this year, we came out with a code of honor. In other words, we aim to regulate the profession so that it adheres to its ethics, taking into consideration our social morals as an Islamic country.

The code of honor was added as article number six in the JPA draft law, it was also included in the draft law of the government, but there are differences in the wording. Regarding honor or code, we insist on handling this case from within the association, to avoid external interference.

The previous JPA council banned journalists from normalizing relations with Israel. Some accuse the JPA of not practicing its rules against those who defy this decision?

In the current council we have not yet discussed the issue of normalization. We still stick to the previous council's decision.

The former council differentiated between two issues: one is related to Jordanian journalists who are given assignments by their institutions to do cover stories in Israel which is legitimate, since we have a peace treaty between Jordan and Israel.

The second concerns journal-



ists who are involved in personal initiatives and visits: in this sense we see it as normalization which is banned by the JPA. We oppose normalization

whatever concept it has, either social, political or economic.

How are you going to put an end to the argument between the owners and editors concerning the post of the president and the seats in the council of the JPA?

In the current council there are three seats for owners, three for editors and three for the Jordan News Agency.

In the draft law, we canceled these quotas, we also increased the number of the council members from nine to 10. We added some conditions to this: the candidate for the presidential post should have been a member of the JPA for the last 10 years, and five years for the council candidate. In fact this was a proposal from the government which we agreed on.

Point of order

By Raed Al Abed

Don't worry, Zambia recognizes your diploma



Dangerous news

Do you know that there are 70,000 Jordanian students who hold the two-year community college diplomas. Lately the government ceased to recognize such certificates, but how, it might be asked? College diplomas are set by the Ministry of Higher Education. They are official! Well, the government does not accept holders of these diplomas in any of its departments. But they are legal, people could be heard protesting!

We remember in the early 1980s, when community colleges were first established, a wide-ranging debate about the merits of two-year diplomas was opened up. Many then opposed such a plan for their own reasons. The government and the whole of the educational sector defended such an idea with all their might arguing that such colleges would be for the good of the country, since they were supposed to provide different fields of specialization that could not be handled by the government.

The idea was then to produce a more technical cadre, one that was lacking in the country. Educational experts argued, and quite rightly, that the country was over-loaded with university degree holders.

This was the ultimate. The government took the decision: many businessmen, officials and university professors entered the race, embarking on the educational business. Community colleges, public and private, thrived in the country, with more licenses than ever being given to open up these educational establishments. And qualified graduate talent was produced to bridge the gap in the labor market, but the unstable employment policy blocked this success.

Many of those students are still on the waiting list of the Civil Service Commission (CSC): some have been waiting for as long as eight years. The commission will not help to provide them with employment in any of the government departments. They form about 50 percent of the CSC waiting list, which includes about 128,000 names.

On its part, the government has no answer for her ad hoc decision to prevent those graduates from employment, which contradicts the simple duties of the government: the right of work to its citizens.

Many families have expressed their astonishment over such a devious official attitude, warning the government of the social consequences. We join our voice to theirs, and say the issue of banning community college graduates in the public sector is unacceptable.

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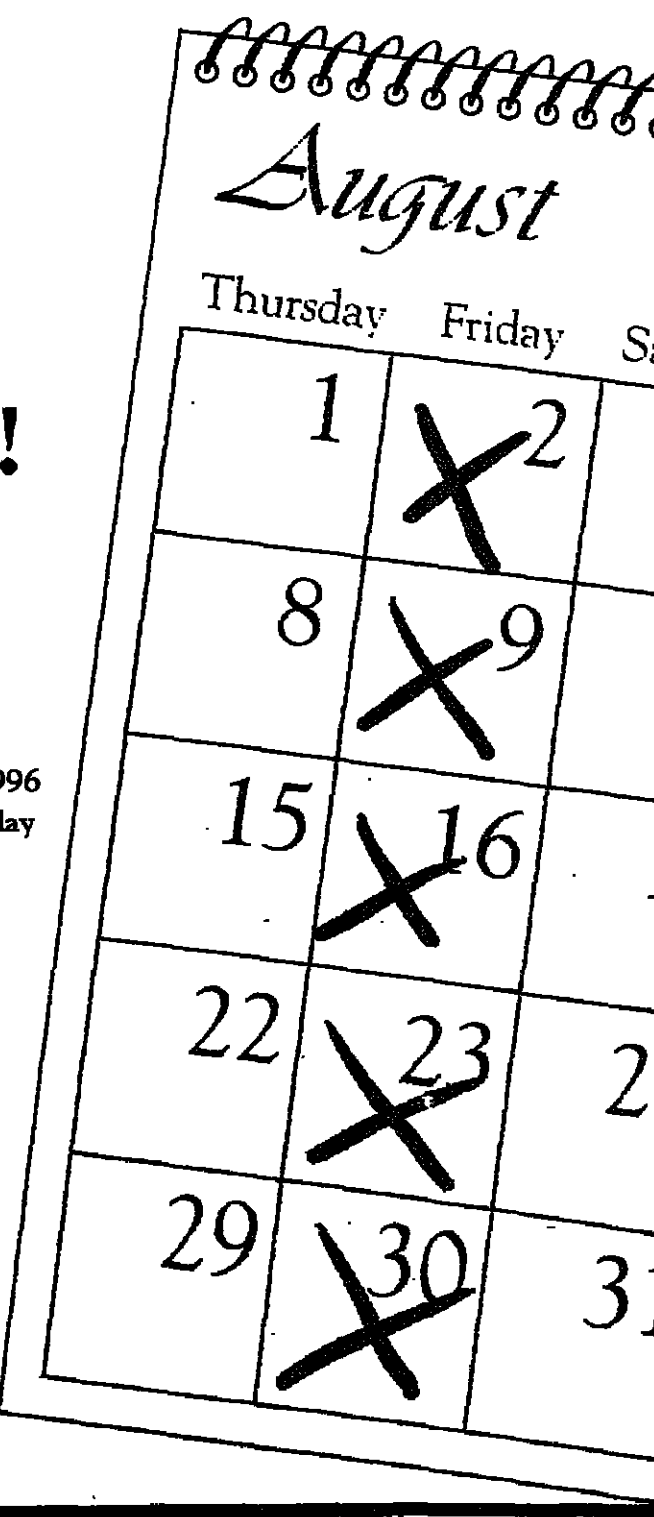
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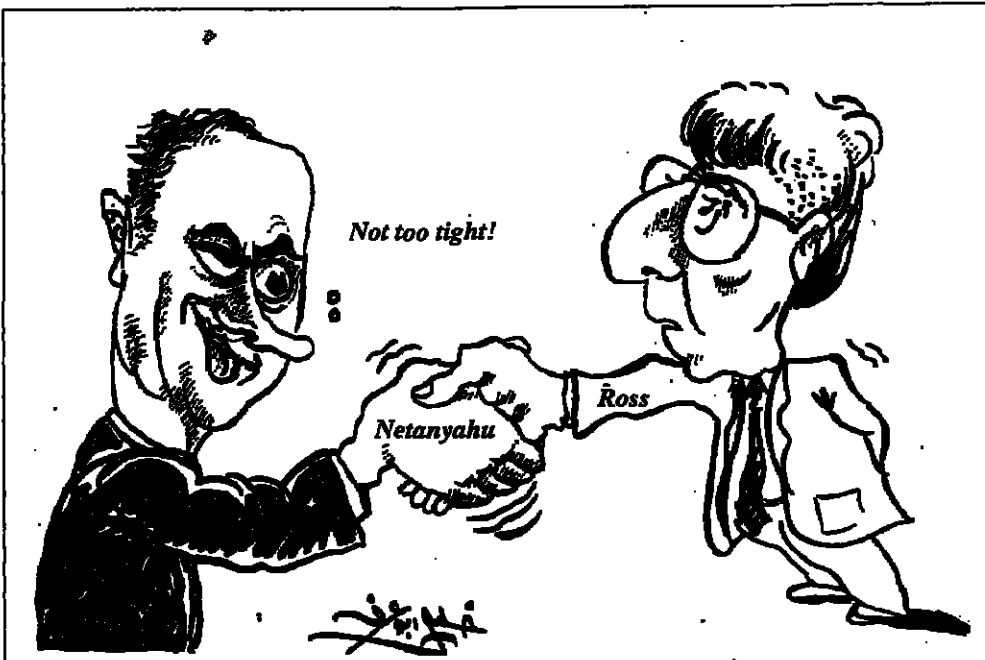
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Our Say...

Settlements are antithesis of peace

THIS WEEK'S announcement by Minister of Infrastructure Ariel Sharon of plans to build two highways in the West Bank and other reports that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has approved plans to build new settlements and expand existing ones on the Occupied Territories do not bode well for the peace process.

For many weeks, world capitals, especially Washington, have been dampening growing fears about the fate of the Middle East peace process under the new Likud-led Israeli government adding that deeds not words and slogans are what matters.

But with all indications pointing to a new wave of settlement activities in the occupied areas, it looks as if the new government in Israel is adamant on translating its promises into deeds no matter what the political cost.

It is no longer a matter of intellectual debate that Jewish settlements are a major hurdle in the road to a just and lasting peace in the region. The expansion of settlements and building new ones is a brazen violation of the agreements signed between the PNA and Israel. The settlements deprive Palestinians of every hope of an end to an Israeli occupation of their land. Redeployment of troops becomes meaningless if more settlers are allowed to dig in. More expropriation of Arab land means alienating those among the Palestinians who still believe in a political settlement. It brings the entire region into a state of confrontation between radicals from all sides. It breeds terrorism, extremism and denies generations of Palestinians from hope of determining their own future on their land.

Building and maintaining Jewish settlements is the antithesis of peace in the Middle East. It is the ugliest form of colonization which denies the rightful inhabitants of their basic rights on their own land. Adopting such a policy can only mean one thing; demise of the peace process and the birth of a new phase of confrontation between Arabs and Israelis.

The Jewish settlements are a time bomb and all parties to the peace process know that their existence will not only delay and complicate a just solution to the problem but will definitely take the initiative out of the hands of politicians and land it into the hands of militants.

Why then is Mr Netanyahu choosing a path that will only take the region backwards? Such a gamble will not pay. We say this because we know that more than two million Palestinians cannot be expected to sit idle while their historical homeland disappears. We say this because we know that once the Palestinians lose hope and feel cornered as a nation, their response will become predictable. We say this because we know that settlements mean, by the end of the day, the annihilation of the Palestinian national identity.

Turning the West Bank into a cluster of cities and villages, in effect Bantustans, will leave the Palestinian people no option but to fight back. Mr Netanyahu's path is not only anachronistic, but suicidal as well. He will soon discover the error of his ways.

Letters to the Editor

TWA Flight 800:

Predictably media turns on muslims

To the editor:

Predictably the US media has turned on Muslims in the Middle East as the likely terrorists who bombed the TWA Flight 800.

CNN in its reporting today may be the first to do so, but other media pundits can't be far behind. Mr Kallstrom, the FBI investigator in charge, says that in 48 hours, perhaps, the FBI may be prepared to say whether it was a bomb or missile that brought down TWA Flight 800. Does CNN know something that the FBI doesn't? We don't think so. In fact, if the FBI determines it was a missile that shot down the TWA plane, it is less likely

ly that such missiles are possessed by Middle East groups according to French authorities.

In fact the media have been remarkably silent about US military activity in the area of the crash. Could it be that an accidental shoot down of the TWA plane by the US military is being seized upon as another opportunity to revive the bogey of Islamic fundamentalism?

A responsible media should be making sure that all who had means, motive, and opportunity to down the TWA plane be thoroughly investigated. It should not be pointing the finger at Middle East Muslims. And an entire faith should not be demonized.

Enver Masud

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Post-modernism and the quest for a global outlook

By Khairi Janbek

PARIS—Philosophy, which has been known as the love of wisdom or the love of the ancient Greek goddess of wisdom, Sophia, by and large, has become the term that determines the world outlook of societies and individuals, aptly described in German as *Weltanschauung*.

In the lands of abundance, capital accumulation, and culture of mass consumerism, that is propounded by fierce individualism, a marked philosophical divergence has taken root away from the traditional concerns of the classical, and neo-classical schools of thought. They are the notions of (being) and (essence), and the nature of (ethics).

It is more or less towards an incomprehensible thought system that reflects a lesser desire to accept diversity within such social systems in the form of post-modernism. It would be a tall order to attempt to define modernism, let alone attempt to define post-modernism, yet simply put, it means more of the same on a global level.

In the absence of any challenging international ideological philosophy, especially after the end of the challenges of Marxism, and the shift towards metaphysics in the schools of existentialism, the road was clear for post-modernism to become the backbone of uniformity advocated for the whole world, but

travelling in the meantime, its own brand of a socio-economic and political agenda.

Any society failing to grasp

the vagueness of this philosophical outlook, and does not incorporate it for its own way of life, has come to be left to its own devices in a manner of sink or swim.

One wonders nowadays, whether the IMF and the World Bank are working through this outlook, or merely working through abstract numbers on accountants' sheets. Where would that leave the UN as an international institution? Perhaps the answer lies in attempting to define the stage of pre-modernism.

Ironically, this post-modernist structuralism, with its efforts at synthesizing individualism with conformity, selfishness with generosity, had failed the dialectical relations challenge. It is succumbing to the emergence of a post-structuralist philosophy, that does not only destroy the existing structural thoughts, but proves their futility and meaninglessness. All that is in the name of deconstructivism.

As the lands of need and want watch the global interplay between the contradictions of the philosophies of international conformity on the one hand, and the each for his own on the other, the schism of differences between the worlds, have become as large as the worlds themselves.

The rejection of diversity, and indifference to others, are becoming the shining beacons of guidance for the many supporters they have in the lands of abundance. Philosophy is no longer the domain of Ivory

Towers, but has climbed out of the high walls of academia, and into the streets of the common man.

The ebb and flow in the contradictions of these two brands of thoughts can be seen clearly in the supposedly unifying structures of the EU and Nato. More dangerously however, is when a world outlook imbued with internal contradiction comes to play a serious role in the affairs concerning our world.

If one philosophical outlook and its counterpart are playing simultaneously an important part in the shaping of public opinion in the West, then perhaps the love of wisdom must creep into our academic halls to assess the damage of lagging behind. This is due to our perpetual suspicion and ultimate rejection of any notion that demands the power of reasoning.

The development models that have been imposed on us at times, irrespective of their nature, have all been based on philosophical schools, our challenge to them, and in rejecting them. They have always been based on economic indicators, and, or, social values rather than comprehensive premises.

The reason for that is nothing to do with any crisis in Arab thought, but merely due to address the issues outside the question of philosophical outlook or (*Weltanschauung*).

Our philosophers have forced themselves previously, either into the straight jackets of what could be termed as Nasserism, Arab nationalism, and

Ba'athism, or the others who rejected the specificity of the Arab nature of world outlook. They became the willing recipients of the wisdom of the West, with innovative thought being sacrificed to the dictates of the liberation of Palestine, electricity, or bread and butter issues.

We still heroically stick to anachronistic notions when dealing in our uneven relationship with the developed world, throwing occasionally the terms of neo-colonialism, and neo-imperialism, when in effect the danger is far more serious and much related to philosophical currents—Western outlook that spill occasionally into our world, and much detached from economic domination.

Clearly we cannot remain the passive recipients of the contradictions in the philosophical outlooks of post-modernism and deconstructionism but we cannot also be the willing victims of particularism.

The philosophical challenge ahead for a world outlook, will be dominated by the advocates of uniformity and exclusivity, and those advocating the ethos of unity in diversity. Before the former settles to a state of siege that vilifies any concept that is divergent from its world outlook, the latter must energetically inject its moral alternative into the classrooms and other domains of the common man so that extremism does not become the legitimate method of demonizing on the one side, and the only acceptable method of resistance, on the other. ■

Eden of Suez

An insider's view

By William Rees-Mogg

WHEN EVENTS one has seen become history, it gives one a strange feeling, like a goose walking over one's grave. The Suez crisis, which began 40 years ago, is now almost as remote as the Boer War. The leading figures, including Anthony Eden, President Nasser, President Eisenhower and John Foster Dulles, are long since dead. Their states of mind are so different from those of the 1950s as to be hard to recapture. Subsequent events have proved many of their expectations to have been false.

I had an insider's view. In 1955, as a young journalist on the *Financial Times*, I was asked by a publisher to write a brief life of the new Prime Minister, Sir Anthony Eden. He agreed to give me some access, a few early letters and a couple of hours reminiscences, sitting together in deck chairs in the garden of Downing Street. We got on well together, and I was asked to help his speech writing team with the economic arguments.

In the summer of 1956, I was chosen to fight, a by-election, in Chester-le-Street, a safe Labour seat among Durham miners. Nasser made his speech announcing the nationalization of the Suez Canal in late July. My by-election in September turned out to be the only one fought in the crisis period. The Conservative Party Conference was held at early in October, with a big policy speech from the Prime Minister.

At the end of October, in secret collusion with Israel, Britain invaded Egypt. In November, under American pressure, we withdrew. In January, Eden resigned, partly on grounds of ill health, and partly because the policy had collapsed. Harold Macmillan became Prime Minister.

Both Eden and Nasser had got it wrong. Eden believed that the British imperial tradition was still strong enough to allow us to play a major part in the politics of the Middle East, that British influence in the oil-producing countries was a national asset which could still be defended and used. The truth was that Britain no longer had the power to carry out this role, which had already passed to the United States.

If there were to be Western intervention again, it would be American-led, as in the Gulf War.

Nasser saw himself as the hero of Arab nationalism, which he thought could be based on Egypt. He focused Arab hostility on Israel. He disdained, and even despised, the traditional Arab rulers. He would have been amazed and even disgusted to learn that 40 years later kings and sheikhs would still be ruling Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the Gulf states, and disappointed to learn that Israel has survived, is at peace with Egypt and is even making peace with the Palestinians. He was hostile to Islamic fundamentalism, and greatly under-

rated its power.

The last stages of Eden's political career were a personal as well as a public tragedy, though he had a surprisingly happy period of private life in retirement. In deciding that he had to meet the challenge that Nasser had thrown down, he turned from a lifetime of skilful diplomacy to the role of a man of action. He was not temperamentally suited to that role. At the end of my biography I attempted an assessment of his position immediately before Suez. It contains a sentence I now find surprising. "One can go through his career and scarcely find an issue of foreign policy on which he has been proved wrong."

I was considerably more critical of his domestic policy. No doubt my praise of Eden's judgement in foreign affairs went too far. Yet in 1956 it did not strike people as odd: His resignation early in 1958 in protest at Chamberlain's appeasement policy, his wartime role and his part in the development of the post-war institutions, his leadership of the Geneva Conference on South-East Asia in 1954, were all great achievements. Yet now he is remembered largely for Suez.

Why did he do it? There was strong political pressure to take some action, very much like the emotional pressures in the first days after the Argentine invasion of the Falklands. When I went up to Chester-le-Street in September, I toured the constituency in an old-fashioned loudspeaker van, urging the Durham miners not to "appease Colonel Nasser." They had no more wish to appease Nasser than Eden did, and thought the Labour leader, Hugh Gaitskell, was being rather wet. But of course they voted Labour, as they always

did.

Eden was too serious, about international policy to do what he thought was wrong because the public wanted it. In many of his speeches, and in all his private conversation, he reverted to the analogy of the rise of Hitler. He saw Nasser as a dictator, and considered that aggressive dictators could be stopped only by early and firm action. He blamed himself, as a young Foreign Secretary, for having failed to oppose the German rearmament of the Rhineland in March, 1936, which he looked back on as the last time Hitler, could have been stopped without a world war. To a large extent he made his mistake at Suez because he wanted to avoid repeating what he had come to regard as his mistake over the Rhineland, 20 years earlier.

Today, we tend to think of Nasser as less dangerous than he was. Eden was probably right about Nasser's intentions. He did hope to dominate the Middle East, which would have been damaging to Europe and the United States. He was not a mad dictator like Hitler, but he was an expansionist and a nationalist, like Mussolini. He was a charismatic leader, but not a cooperative statesman. Eden also retained too much of what one could call the Sec-

ond World War consciousness. Both the Anglo-American alliance and the idea of vast strategic decision stood for him where they had in 1945. He recognized that John Foster Dulles, the American Secretary of State, was an opponent, but he did not believe that Eisenhower, his war-time partner like would turn on him when it came to the point.

As the crisis developed, there were many stories that Anthony Eden was emotionally unstable, was taking amphetamines, lost his temper in Cabinet, and so on. He did have a hysterical temper, like his father, thought I never saw him lose it. At the speech-drafting meetings he was calm, reasonable, decisive, courteous and always in command of himself. He was a difficult man to write speeches for as he hated striking phrases and would always take them out of any text. He thought they did more harm than good. He was wrong about Suez, wrong about Britain's position, wrong about the Arabs, wrong about the United States. But he made a historic blunder for intelligible reasons. Suez was the dramatic end of the British Empire, Act Five, Scene Five, and it has become his epitaph. ■

The Times



Hunger strikes

IN ALL the analysis of the cabinet of Mr Erbakan, and his statements about Turkey's membership of Nato, and the EU, none proved more damaging for the Islamic Prime Minister and his ally Mrs Ciller, than the hunger strikes taking place in the prisons of Turkey.

Although the government tried to project the hunger strikes as instruments for making political demands, the fact remains that the political orientation of the prisoners and those of the ethnic Kurdish origin of most of them, has absolutely nothing to do with simple demands of improving the notoriously ill-managed incarceration conditions in Turkish jails. The government must be careful in its handling of this affair, before the indictment of prison conditions, becomes the indictment of the system itself.

Turkey lobbied hard to have preferential treatment with the EU, and as a long standing member of Nato with the highest numerical personnel contribution, it feels that it earned a place within European structures.

But, and as before, had the question of human rights always plagued the country's application to enter the European club; it is here again to taunt Mr Erbakan and his Foreign Minister Mrs Ciller. With the recent threats and pressures exerted by the leading countries in the EU, and the open declaration of the socialist MPs in the European Parliament, to block financial assistance scheduled for talks next year, confrontation seems to be the only prospect on the agenda.

Certainly, the situation is very tough, and it is very easy to fall into the trap of hinging almost everything on the prestige of the state, and then make more mistakes when already existing ones could be remedied. Absolutely, one does not suggest that the Turkish government should ideally sit out the death after death that increase the tension with the population, and threatens the internal as well as the international credibility of Mr Erbakan's team.

Prison hunger strikes have been a method of resistance for many years, most notably, the ones taking place in Irish prisons under the complete knowledge and supervision of the then government of Mrs Thatcher. International response had been muted at the time, but then again, Turkey is not Britain, and Mrs Thatcher is far from being a leader of an Islamic party that runs the government.

As the Turkish justice minister indicated, storming the various prison locations to restore order and bring back authority of the state, is a prerogative of an independent country that does not take much notice of international press reports. Such a statement may carry a hidden message that has been veiled until now by Mr Erbakan's assurances of the West of his intentions to their close ally.

Do the remarks of the justice minister reflect the opinions of the prime minister, or are they the product of a moment of rhetorical flourish showing a highly irritated Turkish official? Either way, the situation is very difficult now, and it is hoped that the government will not stumble at the first real hurdle. The difficulty is in the fact that the issue is totally internal, but as well, commands plenty of international attention.

Luckier governments usually opt for either placating their nationals and hope for understanding internationally, or placate international public opinion and then hope for the best at home. But how is Mr Erbakan to play his cards, when both local as well as international opinion are demanding restraint and negotiations?

The battle for the soul of Turkey has started in earnest, but even if the rank and file of the Refah Party, demand from their leader to start paying up his pre-election promises, mainly on the international front, Mrs Ciller will be most ready watching, perhaps to the detriment of the coalition. ■

Foreign Exchange

Rate	Unit
1.021	JD 100
0.473	JD 100
0.560	JD 100
0.140	JD 100
0.650	JD 100
0.420	JD 100
0.046	JD 100

STOCKS

Symbol	Price
JD 100	1.021
JD 100	0.473
JD 100	0.560
JD 100	0.140
JD 100	0.650
JD 100	0.420
JD 100	0.046

Palestine Post

De Charette meets with Palestinian delegation at Jerusalem

The French Foreign Minister, Herve de Charette, arrived in Jerusalem last Tuesday and met with a Palestinian delegation at the French Consulate in Jerusalem. Also, he met the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, in Gaza. They discussed the state of the peace process.

The Minister of Higher Education at the PNA, Dr Hanan Ashrawi, said that Mr de Charette didn't visit Orient House in Jerusalem because of Israeli pressures.

De Charette is the first foreign minister in Europe to visit Jerusalem since Benjamin Netanyahu's victory in the Israeli election last May.



de Charette

Israel rejects air flights from Jordan to Haifa

Jordan has recently asked Israel to simplify the bureaucratic procedures involving its flights to Haifa, but the Israeli Civil Aviation Authority refused such a request.

Royal Jordanian has recently complained that its planes, namely Royal Wings, are forced to fly over Lod Airport for 25 minutes before they are allowed to start their descent, according to Al Quds.

Jordanian officials had also protested that their planes face a three-hour delay because of stringent security procedures before they are allowed to take-off from Lod Airport. The flight between Tel Aviv and Amman takes only 13 minutes.

Preparations for a Palestinian publishers association

A preparatory committee for a Palestinian publishers association was recently formed. They include: Mohammed Al Beitawi of the Dar Al Farouk, Ali Nasir Al Din of the Universal Bookshop and Maher Al Dusuqi of the Arab Culture House.

The committee is working on the draft for the union's internal system to be submitted to its general assembly for ratification.

A telegram was sent to the head of the Arab Publishing Association informing him of the preparations for the setting up of a Palestinian association. The latter welcomed the step and invited members of the preparatory committee to participate in the Arab Book Fair that is expected to be held in Libya in September.

Appeal to save 25 tile factories from bankruptcy

The Palestinian Association of Tile Factories appealed to the Palestinian National Authority and the international community, who are regarded as the sponsors of the peace process, to impose pressure on Israeli authorities to allow the export of tiles to the markets of the West Bank and Israel.

Since last December, the Israeli authorities have imposed a ban on the exports of Palestinian commodities. About 25 tile factories, established at total costs of more than \$20 million, are on the threshold of bankruptcy.

The factories recorded a monthly loss of \$1 million and increased the already worsening unemployment rate by 5000 jobless people.

The Association called for a comprehensive effort to solve these problems and support the existing industries rather than building new factories.

Palestine's favorite radio

A recent opinion poll by the Palestinian Centre for Public Opinion in Bait Sahur showed that 50.9 percent of those polled believe that the Voice of Palestine (VoP) represents the Palestinian masses view point, while 32.9 percent said that the radio represents both the official point of view and that of the masses. About 34.6 percent of respondents said that Israel Radio is their favourite station compared to the 32.8 percent that chose the Voice of Palestine radio.

Other favourite stations included Amman Radio (11.6 percent), Radio Monte Carlo (9.6 percent) and the BBC (4.8 percent). The poll, which was prepared by Dr Nabil Kawaikali, covered 325 people from the Hebron, Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Ramallah governorates.

Orthodox Jews protest plan to allow traffic on Sabbath

By John Daniszewski
LA Times-Washington Post News Service

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM—In a massive show of strength, tens of thousands of ultra-Orthodox Jews marched, danced and sang in the streets for more than three hours last Saturday, closing down one of Jerusalem's main thoroughfares in a protest against allowing traffic on the Sabbath, the Jewish holiday.

Skirmishes with police were light compared to conflicts in previous weeks, and scuffles and rock-throwing that broke out after the demonstration seemed more pro forma than passionate.

Eighteen-year-old Brian Lefkowitz summed it up last Saturday night, standing in an alley as all around him Israeli police with billy clubs chased after yeshiva boys, whose black frocks and side-locks flew behind them as they ran.

"When they go bruising after the people, the people go bruising after them," said Lefkowitz, a vacationer from New York. "They want to see some action too."

It was the fourth consecutive weekend of street skirmishes over the emotive issue in Jerusalem of whether Bar Ilan Street should be closed to vehicles on the Sabbath, from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday, out of respect for the Orthodox Jewish population.

The Supreme Court is due to rule within days on the legality of a plan by the new government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to close the street during prayer times Friday and Saturday, a total of 10 hours.

Many secular Jews want to keep the road open. Complaining that the proposal amounts to a hoax, Jerusalem City Councilman Ornan Yekutieli predicted that if the street is legally closed for even part of the Sabbath, militant residents will prevent traffic there all day long.

The times are on the side of the religious parties, Yekutieli said. Having played a large role in Netanyahu's election, they will demand in return the new government's support on social and religious issues. "The wheel is turning back and turning back fast," he said.

But a supporter of the marchers, schoolteacher Miriam Ryder, said it is the secularists who are unreasonable. The overwhelming majority in the area is religious, she said, and need the street as a pedestrian walkway as they do not drive on the Sabbath.

Foreigners not surprised by Olympic bombing

By Mary Williams Walsh
LA Times-Washington Post News Service

BERLIN—A few days before a bomb rocked the Atlanta Olympics, a group of editors and reporters at Munich's respected *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* newspaper found themselves in a friendly back-and-forth over the prospects for a secure Games in the United States.

Sports Editor Michael Gerhardt led the charge for the majority on the cosmopolitan staff, who thought the Atlanta Olympics seemed made for disaster—a drive-by shooting, an assault-rifle attack by a crazed gunman, a terrorist bomb blast or some other horror.

"(Gerhardt) went down the list: Waco, (cult leader) David Koresh, the Unabomber," recalled senior foreign affairs columnist Kurt Kister, ticking off a depressing roll call of American wackos and fringe elements. "He said that if something is going to happen at a modern Olympics, it will be at the Olympics in Atlanta."

Kister, who lived in the United States for five years, argued—to no avail—that the United States is much more complicated than its stereotypical foreign image: an anything-goes land blighted by gun-worshipping members of the National Rifle Association.

When word reached Europe that the Atlanta Games had, in fact, been lethally stained by a

crude nail bomb, Kister knew he had lost the argument.

For his co-workers, at least, the bombing would only reinforce their sense of the United States as violent and vulnerable—a place even riskier, perhaps, than some of the countries Americans are accustomed to hearing about on the evening news.

From the mean streets of Moscow to the shelled-out apartment blocks of Sarajevo in Bosnia-Herzegovina, foreign observers are reacting with dismay and sympathy—but also with "I-told-you-so's"—to word of the Atlanta blast, which came on the heels of the still-unresolved destruction of TWA Flight 800.

Some see the Atlanta attack as merely the latest step in the United States' inevitable initiation into a world of seemingly pointless terror that Europeans, Latin Americans and Asians have known for years.

But others, like Gerhardt, were quick to see a link between the recent terrorist violence in the US and other threads of the American social fabric: its unresolved racial tensions, its costly support of Israel, its resistance to unchecked powers for the police; and, most particularly, its enduringly, its constitutional guarantee of the right to bear arms.

"We have our own problems with terrorists now, because of the war in Chechnya, but at least we don't say everyone should be free to

carry weapons and threaten others," said Alla Smirnova, a 36-year-old office worker enjoying the sunshine on a park bench Sunday along Moscow's leafy Boulevard Ring.

To an American, the thought of a visit to present-day Russia probably conjures up lurid pictures of Mafia, subway bombings and political instability. But to Smirnova, the average Muscovite is far safer than his or her counterpart in the United States.

Civilian handgun ownership is still proscribed in Russia. And while possession of contraband weapons has spread since the return of the expeditionary army from Afghanistan in the late 1980s, spontaneous police searches and seizures offer a modicum of control that is absent in the United States.

Thus, while Smirnova called the Atlanta bombing a tragedy, she said it was hardly unexpected.

"What will be a real tragedy is if our transition (from communism) brings all the negative elements of the Western lifestyle to our country, along with the good," she said.

So, too, was the reaction in Beijing: Observers sympathized with America's horror, but some also sneered at a superpower's willingness—and seeming eagerness—to protect a lunatic fringe constitutionally.

"It's awful," 25-year-old hotel manager Li Shen-tong

said of the Atlanta blast. "Thank God no Chinese people were hurt. The US has too much democracy and freedom. It gives democracy and freedom to everybody, including the terrorists."

From Argentina, however, came a special appreciation for the United States' attempts to make public security compatible with civil liberties. In the Argentina of the 1960s and '70s, a spinning cycle of left-wing insurgency and right-wing repression produced an elaborate state-sponsored campaign of murder, kidnapping and torture known as the Dirty War.

Argentine journalist and terrorism expert Sergio Kierman recalled those times, saying people wouldn't even leave their homes to buy a loaf of bread without their identification cards for fear of being stopped and arrested, even "disappeared," by the police. The emotional public response to terrorism can encourage excessive responses by the state, he warned.

"In the passion of the moment, you tend not to think about your liberties," he said. "That's what happened here. The Latin American lesson is that you cannot break the (democratic) system in



A scene from the Atlanta bombing

order to catch one terrorist."

Britons, who have suffered 25 years of bombings at the hands of the Irish Republican Army and, to a lesser extent, its Protestant paramilitary counterparts, took a regretful "Join the club, America," stance upon hearing of the Atlanta bombing.

For most Fleet Street commentators, the blast was seen as the latest in a lengthening list of terrorist incidents in the United States: 1993's World Trade Center bombing in New York, last year's Oklahoma City federal building atrocity and, probably, the TWA jetliner.

"The American brand (of terrorism) seems to be a particularly virulent strain,"

noted James Langton of the *Sunday Telegraph*. "At least the British government knows that the IRA wants a united Ireland when it lays waste a Manchester shopping center. ... The threat to America is still nameless and faceless. An age of innocence is over."

But whether they thought terrorism was new to the United States or merely a freakish manifestation of a strain of violence that had been there all along, observers abroad agreed that the United States should brace itself for more to come.

"Any society is open to terrorism," said Kierman, the Argentine. "I think you are in for a wave of terrorism, and you had better get used to it."

US faces major problems combating terrorism

By Robin Wright
LA Times-Washington Post News Service

WASHINGTON—Recent triumphs have been spectacular: The tracking of Carlos, the world's most notorious terrorist, during a CIA-orchestrated covert operation in Sudan; the FBI seizure in Pakistan of Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, alleged

mastermind of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing; and the early capture of Timothy J. McVeigh, now awaiting trial in the bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building last year.

Together, these successes reflect the fact that more money, more personnel, more equipment, more intelligence and more attention are now

devoted to terrorism than at any time in US history. Unlike the suicide bombings and hostage seizures of the 1980s, acts of terrorism in the 1990s are being solved.

Yet the counterterrorism failures have been equally notable, underscored by the stunning string of confirmed or suspected violent acts against US interests over the last month—attacks on the Atlanta Olympics, a US military housing compound in Saudi Arabia and, probably, Trans World Airlines Flight 800.

They are not isolated cases. "Since the early 1980s, only one in three acts of terrorism has been identified in time to affect the outcome," said Jeff Beatty, former FBI, CIA and Delta Force specialist on counterterrorism, citing figures in a Department of Justice publication.

The bottom line is that, despite the escalating pattern of terrorist threats over the last 17 years, the United States still has a long way to go in dealing with what is rapidly becoming the greatest psychological weapon used against the mightiest power in the post-Cold War world.

"We're probably not halfway toward where we should be in anticipating and preventing terrorism," said Sen. Rich-

ard G. Lugar of Indiana, the second-ranking Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations and Intelligence committees.

"We haven't had a sufficient sense of urgency on terrorism generally," said Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., chairman of the terrorism subcommittee of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

The biggest problem is the very nature of the threat. The State Department goal is to win universal agreement by the year 2000 on a multifaceted international treaty that would make the world "inhospitable" to terrorists and their operations.

Even then, however, the United States is unlikely to be able to protect against all terrorist threats. "Clearly you cannot provide a risk-free existence in a free society," White House Chief of Staff Leon E. Panetta said Sunday on ABC's "This Week with David Brinkley."

A second basic issue is staffing and resource allocation. Since modern terrorists began targeting American victims in 1969 with the hostage seizure of Robert Elbrick, US ambassador to Brazil, both have grown in fits and starts.

"We don't put enough resources into several areas—CIA (covert) penetration, FBI

staff, research and development in detecting and counting weapons of mass destruction just to name a few," said L. Paul Bremer, former State Department counterterrorism chief, now at Kissinger Associates.

Others contended that efforts are too fragmented or poorly coordinated. Ninety-five agencies deal with proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, for example. Specter pointed out. The bureaucracy of counterterrorism also sometimes slows the dissemination of intelligence.

Developing stronger human intelligence capabilities should be at the top of the list of improvements so the United States can cultivate terrorist sources to prevent attacks, both Sen. Sam Nunn of Georgia, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Armed Services Committee, and Rep. Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., the House Majority Leader, said Sunday.

"We can't deal with Boy Scouts and Rotary Club members ... to get that intelligence," Nunn said on CBS's "Face the Nation." Over the last decade, Washington has had little success in penetrating either terrorist cells or the intelligence agencies of rogue states that sponsor extremism, law enforcement officials and

congressional sources said. The next threshold for the United States lies in chemical, biological and nuclear weapons of mass destruction, Lugar said. The dangers were reflected in the use of poisonous sarin nerve gas in the Tokyo subway last year.

The United States has its own close call. The World Trade Center bombers had sodium cyanide which, if used in the fertilizer and fuel oil bomb, would have released poison gas, vastly increasing the fatalities in New York, intelligence officials said.

"If you need a wake-up call, then take a look at some people who are already at work on this stuff. What kind of preparations do we have? Not enough," Lugar said.

Although international cooperation has vastly increased since the 1991 Gulf war, and State Department counterterrorism teams have established ties with counterparts in dozens of countries—including such former foes such as Russia and Syria—the United States has sometimes had difficulty persuading other nations to follow its lead. Not a single major ally has cut off trade with Iran as part of an effort to discourage what Washington claims is the active state sponsor of terrorism.



TWA—was it a terrorist attack?

By John Daniszewski
LA Times-Washington Post News Service

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM—The security agent's two prisoners had already been beaten when he took what he now calls a simple step. He picked up a rock and battered their skulls until they were dead. He was just following orders, he says. He has no regrets. He has no remorse that he lied about the incident a dozen years ago to shift the blame. He doesn't think it was a problem that the army commander on the scene was disgraced, though ultimately exonerated.

But now, on the verge of retirement after a career as one of this country's senior warriors against terrorism, Ehud Yatom is the subject of a wave of criticism and recriminations for his revelations about his life in the Shin Bet, Israel's legendary security service.

His chilling, relaxed attitudes toward a key and scandalous incident involving the agency have set off alarms among civil rights activists in Israel, renewing calls for legislation to set standards for the conduct of the Shin Bet.

The admissions center on "Bus 300 Incident" of April 1984. In an interview with the *Yediot Aharanot* newspaper, Yatom admitted this week for the first time that he was the Shin Bet official who killed the two Palestinian bus hijackers after they had been taken into custody.

Most shocking to Israeli public opinion was how he did it: The prisoners had already been beaten after their capture, he recounted. They were injured, bleeding and could not stand. Yatom described them as "two sacks of potatoes."

"We put them in our van and then I received instructions from (Shin Bet chief) Avraham Shalom to kill them, so I killed them," said Yatom, who then was the 36-year-old head of the agency's operations branch and the top Shin Bet agent on the scene.

Taking a big stone, "I crushed their skulls," he recalled. "Believe me, there was no need for too much of an effort. They were already finished."

Israelis have been used to hearing about Palestinians behaving with cold-blooded brutality. But this is not the kind of behavior Israelis expect from one of their own.

"People are surprised, even astonished, that he made these revelations," said Yossi Melman, an Israeli journalist who has written extensively about the Bus 300 case. Dedi Zucker, a member of Parliament from the liberal Meretz

Party, said of Yatom's description of the killings: "It looks so savage. The man in the street would say that's too much."

The current leadership of Shin Bet reportedly is studying whether Yatom violated secrecy rules with his disclosures. "What Yatom did is a betrayal of the organization as a whole," said a former senior agency official quoted by *Yediot Aharanot*.

At 48, Yatom has spent half his life in Shin Bet, rising steadily. He has commanded the agency's operations, administrative and protection branches. But he requested leave 15 months ago after having been passed over for the agency's top job. Melman said he believes that Yatom's role in the bus hijacking probably made that advancement impossible.

His retirement is due to take effect next week. But he remains extremely well-connected in the country's security apparatus. His older brother, Danny, in March was named director of the Mossad, Israel's external intelligence agency.

In the interview, Ehud Yatom sounded bitter that his

own career has suffered because of the hijacking. He said he was "paying dearly," although he remains "Proud of what I did."

If nothing else, the scandal over the attack on Bus 300—the killings themselves and the cover-up and finger-pointing that followed—has contributed in recent years to a greater skepticism about the conduct of Shin Bet and other security agencies in Israel, lawmakers and analysts say.

Founded in 1948, Shin Bet reports to the prime minister and is not regulated by a specific law. While the vast majority of Israelis appreciate and support the agency in its continuing war against terrorism, the courts, lawmakers and the media have become more jaundiced in accepting official explanations of some of its acts, said lawmaker Zucker. He said Yatom's disclosures would harm Shin Bet's image and morale at a time when the agency is recovering from its shame in failing to protect Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin from a right-wing assassin last year.

The latest disclosures underline the need for legislation to subject Shin Bet to

standards of conduct and parliamentary review. The Association for Civil Rights in Israel argued, saying: "Killing prisoners, even terrorists, is a grave crime and those responsible should have been punished. Instead, after being pardoned, Yatom was promoted."

Melman doubts the present government will dare to act against Yatom for speaking out, saying: "The recent decision is to write it off from the national agenda." Administrative action only would focus unwanted public attention on the agency.

That Yatom offers a defense of himself by claiming he was merely following orders, Melman said, was reminiscent of alibis once made by Nazis. "For Israelis and Jews to hear that kind of explanation," he said, "is terrifying."

The incident occurred after four Palestinians had hijacked a bus and were threatening to kill 40 passengers aboard. After a confused, all-night standoff, army commandos stormed the vehicle; two hijackers were killed by gunfire. A female Israeli soldier, who was among the passengers, also was slain.

Initially, officials stated that the remaining two hijackers died of injuries while en route to the hospital. But that account was cast in doubt after a newspaper published photographs of them being taken away, apparently unhurt.

At an internal hearing, Yatom and other high Shin Bet officials conspired to direct blame at the top army officer on scene—Yitzhak Mordechai—whose troops had stormed the bus. Eventually exonerated, Mordechai recently became defense minister.

When the cover-up first became public in 1986, Shalom and three other top officials got presidential pardons and resigned. Seven other Shin Bet agents, including Yatom, also were pardoned and remained at their jobs.

"In a war against terrorists, to prevent the murder of innocent people, one must take actions that do not always coincide with perfect values," Yatom said, reflecting on his deed.

Still, he has trouble explaining it to his 12-year-old son, he admitted: "He asks and I squirm. I say to him: 'It's wrong to do that. Only certain people do it who are working for the good of the country and have the prime minister's consent. At home, daddy wouldn't kill a fly, but at work he must contend with war.'"

Russia's poor mired in backwash of developing market economy

By Amy Harmon
LA Times-Washington Post
News Service

MOSCOW—As foreign investors, Western politicians and rich Russians celebrated President Boris N. Yeltsin's recent re-election, Valentina Shetchenkova and her 8-year-old daughter rummaged through the garbage behind their local market for rotten tomatoes and cabbages to eat for dinner.

Geneticist Oleg Lazebny endured yet another clash with his in-laws, with whom he and his wife have been living since his laboratory slashed wages.

And Nina Galitsina, who lost her longtime job at a kindergarten when the factory it was attached to shut down, continued her grim search for work.

Of the three, only Shetchenkova supported Gennady A. Zyuganov, Yeltsin's Communist challenger, who won 40 percent of the vote in the 3 July runoff election largely because of the impoverishment that has afflicted so many here since the collapse of the Soviet Union four and a half years ago. The others, who have reaped only hardship from the Yeltsin government's economic reforms, still voted for the Kremlin leader's open society.

But now that voters appear to have embraced capitalism

decisively, Shetchenkova, Lazebny and Galitsina all hope that the promise of a market economy in which competition rules and hard work is rewarded will somehow become a reality for them and an estimated 50 million other Russians like them who are living in poverty.

"It's very sad to live this way," said Shetchenkova, who has worked as a janitor since her husband was laid off from a television factory that once exported to a guaranteed market of Soviet bloc countries but now must compete with the Sony and Zeniths of the world. "My friends tell me this is only a transition, and I hope that's true."

Now that Yeltsin has triumphed, with 54 percent of the vote, much has been said here about improving the climate for foreign investors and cracking down on crime. The media have focused on the winners and losers of the political jockeying for power in the new government.

But some economists and social critics warn that Yeltsin must tend quickly to weaving a more durable safety net for the poor if Russian society is to maintain its stability and be safe for private enterprise. Part of building capitalism, they say, is constructing a means to help the new class of poor it creates.

"This is an acute problem for us," said Tatyana Y. Yarygina, deputy chairwoman of the Russian Parliament's Labor and Social Protection Committee and a member of the political party of Grigory A. Yavlinsky, the liberal economist and unsuccessful presidential aspirant. "With the new rich, we received a new poor. And with 30 million people voting for Zyuganov, I believe the president knows he must finally do something."

His hand forced, in part, by the close race with Zyuganov in the 16 June first round of the presidential election, Yeltsin made improving social welfare a cornerstone of his campaign. Last month, he appointed Prime Minister Viktor S. Chernomyrdin to head a commission on social reform. And recently, in his first public address since the runoff election results were declared final, he promised to make good on his campaign pledges to help the needy.

What I spoke about over the past six months is being done already," Yeltsin said, referring to his promises to increase pensions and ensure that workers get paid. But he added, "Probably not as fast as we all would wish."

As for the Russian poor, much of the cause of their distress, analysts say, can be traced to rampant inflation—

now seemingly in check—and Russia's overall economic decline. The nation's Gross Domestic Product has fallen by almost half. Huge numbers of workers lost their jobs, for example, in the Soviet giant military-industrial sector. But these employees are expected to be reabsorbed into the work force as Russia retools to serve international markets.

But economists say that capitalism inevitably leaves some people poor; the Russians newly afflicted this way are unlikely to see an improvement in their condition unless some combination of state and private support is provided for them.

"The distribution of income in a market economy is likely to be less equal," said Jeni Klugman, project manager of a recent World Bank report on poverty in Russia. "And there are new groups of poor that are here to stay, such as the unemployed."

Officially, Russia's jobless numbers remain low. That, in part, is because unemployment benefits are so sparse—on average, equivalent to \$22 a month—that many of those without work simply do not register with the Federal Employment Service.

Yarygina, the deputy chairwoman in Parliament, estimated that almost one-quarter of Russians can work and are

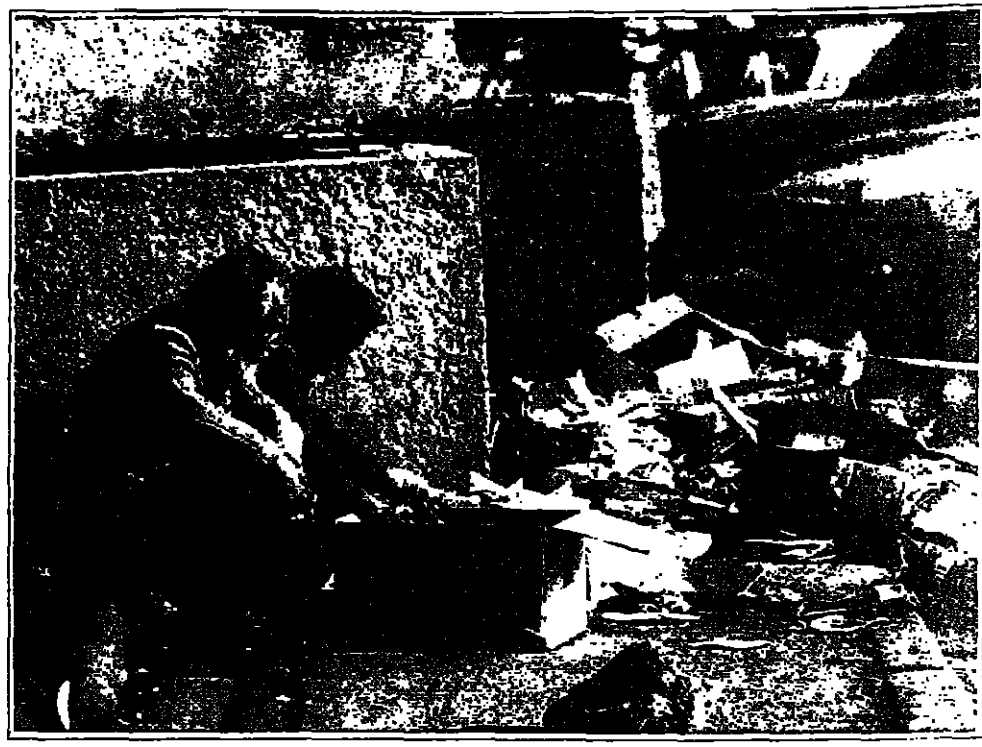
willing to do so but cannot find employment—a situation complicated by how foreign the very idea of a job search is for most Russians. And while the "shadow," or underground, economy provides employment for many Russians, that work rarely offers a real livelihood that will lift them out of poverty.

Some economists have predicted that Yeltsin must delay many of his more lavish promises so he can comply with the requirements of the International Monetary Fund, which, as a condition of its \$10 billion loan to Russia, has insisted that this nation take steps to control its spending and inflation.

Some also argue that more generous social spending simply would prolong the dire conditions of the Russian poor, imposing too heavy a tax burden on small businesses and the wealthier segment of society that would be more likely to invest in enterprises that would create jobs.

But most analysts here agree that if Russia can't do more than offer a patchwork of programs left over from the Soviet regime and new efforts rooted in Yeltsin's first term, perhaps the whole system should simply be restructured to help the neediest.

Under the current system, for example, the Ministry of Social Protection provides a



Rummaging the bins: Russians are finding it increasingly difficult to live because of the worsening economic situation

subsidy equivalent to about \$10 a month for each child younger than 16 in every Russian family, regardless of income. "We're considering changing this system to make it differential, but that would require proof of income—and that's an expensive enterprise and we're not sure if it is worth it," said Vladimir I. Mudrakov, a ministry deputy.

Indeed, there seem to be limitless potential demands for government aid to troubled segments of Russian society. Military personnel discharged without job skills from Russia's shrinking armed forces need help, some say; others are championing subsidies to invalids, and while many of Russia's elderly try to live on monthly pensions of \$40 to \$50 in a country where most food items cost more than they do in the United States, some economists want retirees younger

than 60 to be allowed to seek work, with appropriate reductions in their stipends.

Russia has a problem with its "bad allocation of the social expenditures," argued Anders Ashund, an economist at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace who has advised the Russian and Ukrainian governments. "Six percent of social expenditures is on pensions—that leaves 2.5 percent for everything else. Poor families with children are barely getting any help."

Many of Russia's poor are not as visible as the ones who are begging on the streets. For example, some may hold jobs that simply don't pay. At the Zil automobile factory in Moscow, workers have been struggling with impoverishment; they recently said their employer hasn't paid them since January.

At Lazebny's genetics lab,

three of his colleagues take turns selling convenience foods from a kiosk so that they can continue to work in science; like him, they all barely scrape by.

For parents, especially, capitalism can be cruel. Under communism, families received privileges such as discounted clothing and tax breaks. But now, with the Soviet system fraying, almost 40 percent of families with children have incomes below the official subsistence level, the equivalent of \$76 a month.

"The state gives us nothing," said Irina Dyomina, 40, who has five children, ages 8 to 20. "I am afraid sometimes to open the fridge in the kitchen because I know it is empty and my children are hungry. I have nightmares when I dream about meat and fruit. I run to the fridge, but it is as empty as yesterday."

errorist

congressional source. The new United States, he said, is a biological and technological superpower. The danger is in the use of power to force people to live in a way that is not their own.

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By Jutta Falke

"ISTANBUL IS like an animal, says Rifat Akbulut. "It grows and grows and grows." The young city planner, who used to be a member of the Istanbul Chamber of City Planners, points at a map which shows the city as a crawling snake growing fatter on all sides. There are no lines or squares; just uncontrolled growth.

Since the 1950s, Istanbul has been growing continuously. The rural exodus was due to political and economic changes in Turkey which led to a rapid industrialization of the Istanbul area. Migration to urban centers accelerated considerably: Only about a million people lived in Istanbul in 1950; 40 years later there were almost 7.5 million. Today, the population is estimated to be 13 million people, and rising. For the last three years, almost 400,000 people have been arriving annually, most of them from the troubled East. Anatolia and the Black Sea regions—where the government is fighting what is virtually a civil war with Kurdish separatists.

According to an unwritten law dating back to the sultanate times, newly arrived people were allowed to settle down on state-owned land. When the first big wave of immigrants arrived in Istanbul in the 1950s, people built their little houses at the outskirts of the city. The so-called gecekondu were always built overnight. The building's owners were mostly peasants who had come to find work in Istanbul's industrial plants, bringing with them their country traditions. There were always chickens scratching around in the backyard and sheep grazing in front of the houses. Even though there was initially no electricity, water pipes or sewerage system, these areas could not

Istanbul Beauty and the beast

be called slums because their finely-knit social structure.

Nowadays, the expression gecekondu is less common. Building habits have changed during the 1980s when more and more high and middle-income groups got involved in the land and building business. A 1984 law allowed the building of multi-story buildings in the gecekondu area.

Okay Ekin, of the Chamber of Architects, says most of the new land owners could not afford this, so companies built the apartment blocks for them. Half of the building was then owned by the company, the other half by the original owners. Those people would then mostly sell it to make money and start constructing new buildings elsewhere. The mafia has now become the main player in the game. New arrivals to Istanbul can no longer just settle down. Now, they have to negotiate with the mafia which acts as a kind of real-estate agent—for land which is not actually theirs.

Even though politicians of all parties complain about these unplanned activities, they themselves, once they are in power, tend to legalize those houses after a few years to gain those people's votes in the next elections. More than 60% of all Istanbul housing was unplanned and initially illegal. So where is city planning? The municipality's planning unit is mainly occupied in drawing the master plan of metropolitan Istanbul. "But nobody obeys it," says one source, who is

very familiar with land speculation. "It is all a question of money...."

"In Istanbul you can forget everything you ever heard about city planning," says architecture professor Dogan Kuban, currently writing a book about Istanbul. He has almost apocalyptic visions

land." He sums up the city's urbanization process over the last few decades in one word: "plunder." The generally held view is that the people of Istanbul have been exploiting their city to such an extent that the resources which are vital for the city's survival: soil, water, air and green space are in great

European sides of the city, evidence of the destruction of the once-large forest areas is visible. This is not only due to heavy coal mining, but also to the mushrooming of human settlements everywhere. Identical, neat modern houses, built in former woodlands, stand out like outposts of civilization.

Most of Istanbul's water protection areas are polluted. Unfiltered waste water flows into the lakes. In dry seasons, water shortages can get so serious that Istanbul has to buy drinking water from Anatolia or Bulgaria. And most of Istanbul's industrial and domestic sewage flows into the Marmara and Black Sea. In 1990, only a third of all Istanbul industrial plants had installed systems to purify their waste.

Istanbul's famous Golden Horn is always a dirty brown even though the former mayor, Bedrettin Dalan, wanted to render it "blue as my eyes." The waters of Istanbul, including the Bosphorus, have long ceased to be blue. The Bosphorus has been the scene of many tanker accidents, the worst of them

two years ago when two Cypriot tankers collided. Not only were 29 people killed but an enormous carpet of oil spread over the Bosphorus.

Another problem is the disposal of waste. This has been another area where negligence of the worst kind paved the way to catastrophe: Two years ago Umraniye, the biggest waste dump of the city, exploded, killing 40 people.

Another source of annoyance as well as of pollution is traffic. Because Istanbul's municipalities failed to install a large-scale mass transport system like a metro-system, such as a good metro, the number of cars has increased dramatically. There are currently 1.4 million cars registered in Istanbul. This is increased every day by 15 new cars.

To facilitate access to the city centre Bedrettin Dalan, who was the city's mayor from 1984 to 1989, built highways and boulevards. Large numbers of old houses had to be pulled down because of the road projects. This was very badly received by some Istanbul residents, who still blame Dalan for the destruction of the city's heritage.

Dalan's two successors, a Social Democrat and—for the last two years—an Islamist from the Refah party, have not initiated similar projects. But neither has done much to improve the situation.

Turkmen Baser Kafaoglu of SOS Istanbul says the Refah mayor, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, lacks an environmental consciousness. Kafaoglu's environmentalist movement, which organized a big protest against the Bosphorus tanker accident, has 120 paying members. But whenever there is a catastrophe, 50,000 people support us, she says proudly. Unfortunately, that support quickly drops off again once the catastrophe is over.

"In Istanbul there is no common identity and a total lack of urban consciousness," Dogan Kuban says. "Practically, all the newcomers are peasants." This has an effect on the city's development which is unknown in any other European country, he says. "It is not the city that swallows the country, but it is the rural mentality which swallows the city."

EUROP

Heart Beat brings new cardiac technique to Jordan



AMMAN (Star)—A new Telephonic Cardiac System was introduced in Jordan to detect potential heart problems. Over the last 20 years, Jordan has gradually gained a well deserved reputation as being a center of medical excellence in the Middle East. This is particularly evident in the fields of Cardiology and Cardiovascular Surgery. Notably, Jordan was the eighth country in the world to perform Cardiac Transplantation. It was among the first countries to perform complicated open heart procedures on newborn babies, with excellent results comparable to the most advanced centers in the world. Jordan was also the ninth country to perform Cardionephroplasty for the treatment of Cardiac failure.

Over the last 10 years, Cardiology and Cardiovascular Surgery has become a source of National Income with more than 30 percent of our work load coming from abroad. Cardiovascular disease is the number one killer in Jordan. It accounts for more deaths than all the other medical causes put together.

People who have suffered from heart related problems, and their families, know only too well the panic and terror associated with a heart attack (not knowing what to do, who to call, and whether the case is really a cardiac emergency and to what extent).

The Heartbeat Center, the first of its kind in the Arab World, is a newly established Receiving Station for Telephonic Transmitted ECG's. With the use of a small size, portable device, the subscriber can send his Cardiograms, via the telephone, to the Receiving Station from anywhere in the world—24 hours a day, all year round.

This use of the heart monitor removes all above mentioned legitimate fears from the cardiac patient by always being there for him. The heart monitor can provide the psychological support that no cardiac patient can have enough of, knowing that he or she has 24 hour medical care and supervision removes a great amount of the stress experienced by the patient.

In addition, companies can also subscribe for the benefit of their employees. Tour guides can provide such service for tourists. General Practitioners could use the system for their patients getting expert opinion in minutes. Thus, the General Practitioner can determine whether the patient suffers from an ailment that he himself can treat, or whether he should refer the patient to a Cardiologist.

Dr Bassam Akash, Head of Cardiovascular Surgery at K.H.M.C., commented, "During pain, the ECG reading is almost 100% accurate in giving a diagnosis."

Thus, the Heartbeat ECG transmitter device will be able to differentiate the cause of the pain on the spot. We are pleased to have this new service that will further distinguish Jordan as a regional leader in Health Care."

How to make the best basic vanilla ice cream

PURE VANILLA ice cream is pretty hard to beat. Here is Lorene Burrus Smith's master recipe, with some variations as provided by the LA Times-Washington Post News Service.

Lorene Burrus Smith's homemade vanilla ice cream

- 4 egg yolks
- 2 cups sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup flour
- 4 cups whole or skim milk
- 1 tablespoon pure vanilla extract
- 3 cups heavy cream, or part cream and part milk

NOTE: Directions are for a standard, hand-crank freezer. If using another type of freezer, follow manufacturer's directions for freezing. This makes about 1 gallon of ice cream; if your freezer is smaller, you may need to reduce quantity.

1. At least a few hours before making the ice cream, or as early as the day before, com-

bine egg yolks, sugar, salt and flour in a heavy saucepan. Stir in a little milk, enough to make a paste. Continuing to stir and keeping the mixture smooth, stir in remaining milk. Place pan over medium to medium-high heat and stir constantly until the mixture thickens, as for pudding.

2. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla. Place in 1-gallon freezer canister or in a non-reactive (glass or enamel) container and place a layer of waxed paper over the surface of the custard so a skin does not form. Cover and refrigerate until thoroughly chilled.

3. Add chilled cream or cream and milk to custard in canister; do not fill to more than within a finger's length (3 inches or so) of the top, or the ice cream may overflow. Insert paddle and cover, making sure of proper insertion. (If the paddle, or dasher, is not in the center groove, you'll get ice on the sides and cream that's not frozen in the center.) Place in freezer according to manufacturer's directions.

4. When the ice cream is so firm that a strong person cannot turn it anymore, even with somebody standing on top to keep the freezer tamped down, the ice cream is done. Remove ice and salt from around top of freezer and wipe with a clean towel. Be very careful not to get any salt in the ice cream.

Using clean hands (not those of a person who has touched rock salt), take off the lid and pull the paddle out. Have ready a dishpan or large platter and spoons, for "licking the paddle."

5. Serve ice cream immediately, or pack it down and cover the hole in middle of canister lid with a wad of foil; cover canister with several layers of foil or waxed paper, too. Pour out ice and rock salt; replace canister in freezer and pack with salt and ice. Put an old, clean rug or a burlap bag over the ice cream, set it in a shady place and let it "ripen" for an hour or two, until ready to serve. Makes 1 gallon ice cream.

For chocolate ice cream: To the dry ingredients in the saucepan, add 3/4 cup unsweetened cocoa and an additional 1/4 cup sugar.

For Rocky Road: To the dry ingredients stir in handfuls of nuts, some chunked chocolate and 1 cup miniature marshmallows. Decrease cream added at the end so mixture in canister does not come more than 3 or 4 inches from the top.

For pistachio, black walnut or other nut ice cream: Add 1 to 2 cups ground nuts; you will need to decrease the amount of cream to make room for the

nuts. Remember that ice cream expands as you freeze it.

For double vanilla: Cook a scraped vanilla bean in the custard. Remove it before adding cream and freezing ice cream.

For coffee ice cream: Substitute 1 cup espresso or double-strength coffee for 1 cup of cream in custard base and use only 3 cups milk. Decrease cream added just before freezing by 1/4 cup and substitute 1/4 cup coffee liqueur.

For strawberry, peach or other fruit ice cream: Add only 1 1/2 cups cream when you begin to freeze the ice cream. When the ice cream has been turned until it is getting hard, but not done, carefully wipe top of canister, taking great care not to get salt in ice cream. Open it, and add 1 1/2 cups slightly sweetened, mashed fruit. Replace lid and crank until hard. (If fruits are not ripe, you will need to sweeten them and cook them slightly. This method keeps the fruit from freezing into icy-hard chunks.)



Al A'thami excels on Artemis

● Hussein Al A'thami and his group performed last week on the Artemis Theater traditional Iraqi songs. Coming from Al A'thami city, a place famous for Sufist rituals, Al A'thami's songs represent a religious culture blended with the widespread folklore Maqams. He sang songs like *Yumma Ya Yumma* and *Al Ajandi*.

Al A'thami told *The Star* that most of his family members are religious singers.



ZOOM

An oppressed press

■ Preventing many journalists from watching some activities under the pretext of organization distorts the bright image that the Jerash Festival has been seeking to create. We understand that this step was undertaken because many badges were given to people who do not belong to the press. But that does not mean we are the ones who must bear the responsibility. There might be some journalists who did not do their jobs, but on the other hand, there are many others who work day and night to give the festival full coverage. It was not until the press were faced by this unwarranted treatment that the festival's administration received criticism. Our anger at them is by no means against the creativity which the festival seeks to project. Criticism is in the interest of the festival and those who follow its activities every year because if such wrongdoings are repeated, I think the role of the festival in portraying art and culture will be harmed severely.

No comment

■ During the press conference held by the Syrian singer, Sabah Fakhri, journalists expressed their dismay by the presence of an Arab journalist working for Israel's Radio. Once he introduced himself as an Israeli, local journalists protested against his presence and asked him to leave at once. The same thing happened earlier on when the Syrian singer Bashar Zarkan refused to sing in the presence of the Israeli ambassador to Amman.

Fakhri captivates them all

■ Contrary to expectations, Sabah Fakhri's concert was attended by the old and the young. While cheering loudly, young people held banners greeting the singer. This proved that Fakhri's genuine performance is appreciated by everybody. This also proved that originality lives in the hearts of people regardless of age.

Painting on rice

■ Exhibitions were the mark of the festival this year. Local handicrafts were accompanied by traditional art from Palestine and the United Arab Emirates. One of the highlights was drawing, if you believe, on a grain of rice and what is interesting is that people could see the finished product.

Caracalla tours the subconscious

By Munther Hamdan
Star Staff Writer

The art we introduce to the world expresses an Arab heritage which lies deep in our subconscious, said Abd Al Haleem Caracalla, founder of the Lebanese Caracalla Dance Theater. The dancers are not only astonishing performers but magicians who, through body movements, summon the spirit of the past.

Their latest work, "Elissa Queen of Carthage," a venture through history, is part of a series of successes that made Caracalla one of the top acts in the world.

The group is keen to establish what they call an Oriental ballet. This might be viewed as irrelevant to the nature of Arab traditional music as it is derived from the West. Yet, explained Caracalla, the universal effect is limited to the new forms of choreography while the tunes are pure Arabic. Caracalla added that the group members, being university graduates, learnt from the West, the universal techniques of dancing, thus enabling them to perform on stage with much self-confidence.

Apart from the historical content, modern dance theaters "focus on the external shape of the scene." Attention is paid to every subtle movement of the body through which diverse meanings can be derived.

"The body, in its extreme absorption with music, is the ultimate expression of art and

culture," said Caracalla.

"Elissa Queen of Carthage" seeks to revive the history of the civilized city of Tyre and the then barbaric city of Carthage. Highlighting two different mentalities established by relating the story of the Phoenician king Mattan who dies leaving his two children Elissa and Pygmalion a joint reign over the kingdom.

The brother, who was afraid that his sister might seize power, plotted against her and killed her lover Ascrebas. Feeling the danger, Elissa fled Tyre to Carthage where she meets the Berber King Iarbas. The king, requests to marry her, but though she was persuaded by her entourage to accept the offer, she was able to postpone the ceremony until the building of her city. As the wedding approaches, Elissa throws herself in the flames.

The juxtaposition of two different people necessitated a complex employment of body movement and music. Dancing in the civilized city of Tyre requires formally written music unlike the spontaneous, informal music which reveals the barbarian spirit in Carthage. Though she was able to transfer



the culture of Tyre to Carthage, Elissa was eventually overwhelmed and burnt by the fire of Carthage. In this highly expressive atmosphere created by a fluctuation of the musical tonality, along with the two different kinds of dancing, one is taken through time and mind to moments of truth.

Marcel Khalifeh, the famous Lebanese singer, along with Charbel Rohana and Waleed Ghulmeh, have composed the first part of the work where the events take place in Tyre. Khalifeh, a rare composer in the Arab world, is establishing a new type of Arabic music.

With the group since its early beginnings, Khalifeh contributed much to Caracalla's unparalleled reputation. "Khalifeh is the base of Caracalla's music," stressed its founder.

As to the second setting in the work, Caracalla explained that it was difficult to compose barbaric music.

Caracalla called on the internationally renowned Moroccan Group *Gil Gilali* to compose for them Berber Music. Since their music has been inherited throughout generations, "their Berber rhythms and Sufist compositions fit the scene with their dramatic spontaneity."

The strong character of Elissa who built a culture is contrasted with a woman in the present time. This woman refuses to marry an ignorant person but because of his wealth and the insistence of her family she accepts. Caracalla depicts the idea that women are

not all the same through the last scene of the epic which comprises a folklore dances representing a traditional wedding. The narrator, who at the outset of the play introduces the book of ages from which a Genie is summoned to take us back in time, ends the story by letting the Genie lead everyone again into the Book.

The lyricist of the work is the Lebanese poet Saeed Aql. His poetry is rich in the traditional aspects especially those dating back to the Phoenician era. "I consider Aql as the philosopher of the group; though he is in his eighties, he is still producing great poetry," Caracalla stressed. The director of the epic is Ivan Caracalla, son of Abd Al Haleem Caracalla.

Caracalla toured the world since 1970 to present genuine art. It participated in different festivals and cultural activities in Japan, US, Russia, south America, Africa and Europe. Some of its performances are "Mystery of the Bizarre" (1974), "The Black Tents" (1978) and "Shot of Glory" (1980). The group now runs the Caracalla Research Center which attempts to establish the group as an artistic institution that, as Caracalla puts it, "seeks to give an identity to Arab art and export the Arab tradition and heritage to the whole world."

Sabah Fakhri

Stamina of originality

By Star Staff Writer

The magic of Sabah Fakhri will always live on, people could be heard saying at the concerts he gave last week at the South Theater in Jerash.

Fakhri represents the last of a dying breed of Arab singers. He is part of a unique tradition that is embedded in Arab culture and tradition. It's a school of music representing the distinctiveness of the classical Arab song. Fakhri belongs to a school that was started by Um Kalthoum and Mohammad Abdel Wahab.

The Syrian singer abhors the current trends in Arab music. He says that it is not creation, and goes nowhere, but it's just an imitation of Western types of music.

What is peculiar of today's Arabic pop scene, if it can be called that, is that it stoops to commercialism and lacks an artistic vigor.

Fakhri who first started singing since the early 1950s, says that music and song is about words, lyrics and quality, something that has long ceased to exist. As a proof of that, his two-day concerts attracted many, from all ages and all backgrounds. It was not just for an audience with fixed tastes as it is commonly believed.

His songs, because they are



based on the classical Arab Terza rima (*Mawashahat*) and based on originality and tradition, are taken from classical Arab poetry and recitals. They are enjoyed by many people because new words can be added to fit the rhythms of modern times.

And *Mawashahat* require a powerful voice, something which the singer is famous for. Indeed his voice can be heard right in the top seats of the South Theater.

This is why he is against the over-use of Western musical instruments. He says that too much music and noise played by keyboards and acoustics ruin the performance of singers. This is very true as people in the West readily admit.

Fakhri says that such musical instruments should be limited.

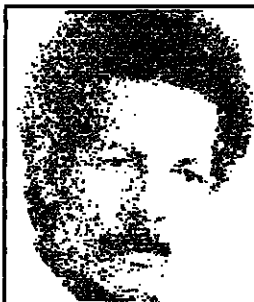
"we should stick to our own musical instruments," the 67-year-old artist says.

The Zither (*Qanoun*), *Tahla*, and the lute (*Uduh*) are traditional instruments that go into the very heart of Arab history. During his concerts, he was very cautious, at the end of each song, to adjust the Zither and other main instruments to make sure that they are perfectly tuned to the next song.

Fakhri is a truly giant of a man, that is in appearance as well as in song. He has been known to sing for up to non-stop 10 hours. In fact he was recently placed in the Guinness Book of Records. His stamina is amazing, and he seems to sing with effort, coming out so naturally. Both his song and music will live on. ■

Abu Doumah Seeking unification with self and God

AMMAN (Star)—Muhammad Abu Doumah is an Egyptian poet with a special style of writing that appeals to different kinds of readership. A Sufist poet, Abu Doumah's poetry seeks a perpetual quest of the ultimate experience with the self and God. His words are derived from the old Sufist diction, expressing modern perspectives and moods.



Abu Doumah

According to Abu Doumah, writing is a complex process. He said that the poet writes for the people, himself and the poem. He added that though it is important to have the ability to deliver meanings to the reader, one cannot ignore the importance of the structure of the poem itself. "There are two kinds of readers: the average person who listens to me reading the poem and the sophisticated who reads my poems," he added.

Asked if the Sufist diction restricts the process of writing, Abu Doumah said that each poem has its own words and emotional context which differs from any other poem he writes. There are poetic moments which impose themselves on the writer who through experience can define their language and the time of writing. "I do not write the poem immediately after living certain emotions because the output will only represent a moment of excitement and thus loosening the structure of the poem."

Abu Doumah has a distinguished style of depicting the beloved woman. As a person coming from the southern, rural part of Egypt, the woman in his poems is associated with the land and fertility. But this materialistic aspect is not an end in itself, but it is aimed "to lead poets into a more spiritual moments where they are united with themselves." "There is a link between the spiritual and the sensual. The poem is like praying; one is able to reach by certain movements to a higher levels of spirituality," he added. Abu Doumah believes that the poet must live the subject he wants to write about. "This necessitates a high level of intellectuality and sensitivity to the requirements of the text," he said. Though a son of a popular Sufist, Abu Doumah believes one should strive to create an independent style away from any external impact. "I will keep knocking at the door till it opens to me." ■

MH

Royal Wings organize flights to Al Jafer

AMMAN (Star)—In cooperation with the Forte Grand Hotel and the Alfa Bus Co., Royal Wings will be taking car-racing fans who want to watch the historic moment of breaking the speed limit by Thrust SSC team to Al Jafer, said Mr Ammar Balqar, the marketing and sales manager of Royal Wings.

Balqar added that the journey will start at Amman Civil Airport in Marka. The plane will take off at 5 pm taking passengers to Faisal Ibn Abd Al Aziz Air Base in Al Jafer. Air conditioned buses will be awaiting passengers to take them to the race venue. The Forte Grand Hotel will serve each participant a breakfast. At the end of the event, spec-



Balqar

tators will be taken back to the air base and then to Amman at about 12 pm.

Balqar said the date of the flights and all details related to the event will be announced later on. ■

Training workshop for JTI employees



● The Jordan Tourism Investment Co. (JTI), held a training workshop for its employees to improve the performance of their cadres in the catering industry.

The company owns the Kan Zuman Touristic Village and the Taybet Zaman Hotel Resort. The Manager of Human Resources at the company, Mr Mohammad Al Qawasmi, supervised the workshop.

Jerash Festival program

Thursday 1 August

■ Najwa Karam, Lebanon (South Theater)
■ NMIC, (Artemis)
■ Family International, (Sound and Light)

■ Hassan Salloom Percussion Band and Solo Flute, (Gracia)
■ Chinese Folklore, (Forum)
■ Egyptian Circus, (Forum)
■ Egyptian Ballet Group, Swan Lake, (RCC)

Friday 2 August

■ Najwa Karam, Lebanon (South Theater)
■ The Cavern Beatles, UK (Artemis)
■ Jordan University Band, (Sound and Light)

■ Hassan Salloom Percussion Band and Solo Flute, (Gracia)
■ Chinese Folklore, (Forum)
■ Egyptian Circus, (Forum)
■ Egyptian Ballet Group, Swan Lake, (RCC)

Saturday 3 August

■ Najwa Karam, Lebanon (South Theater)
■ The Cavern Beatles, UK (Artemis)
■ Jordan University Band, (Sound and Light)

■ Hassan Salloom Percussion Band and Solo Flute, (Gracia)
■ Chinese Folklore, (Forum)
■ Egyptian Circus, (Forum)
■ Egyptian Ballet Group, Swan Lake, (RCC)

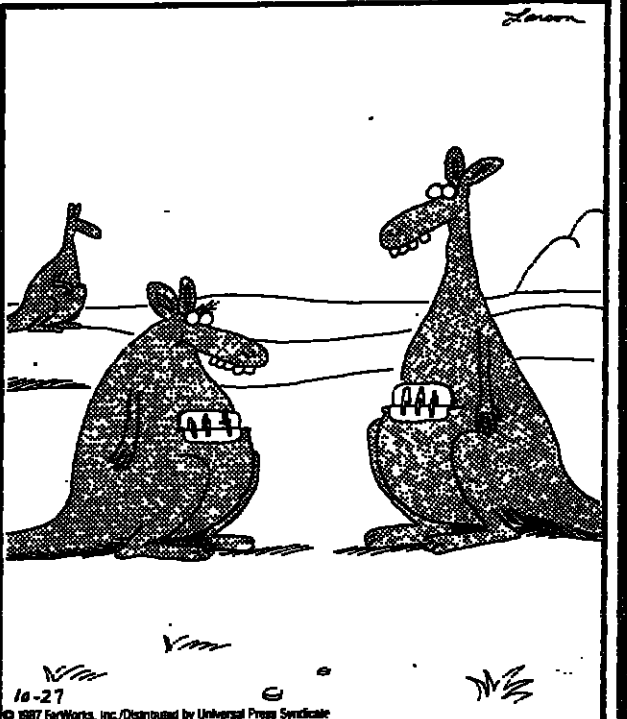
■ Closing Ceremony (Gracia)

THE FAR SIDE

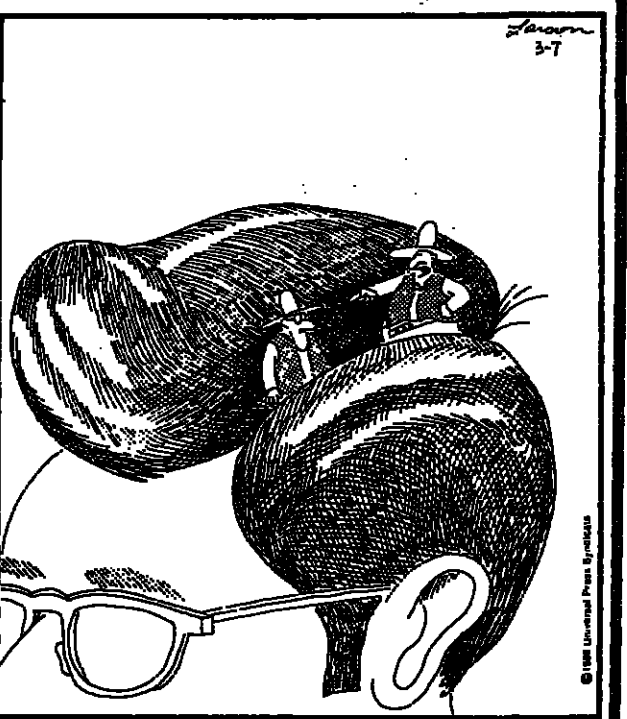
By GARY LARSON



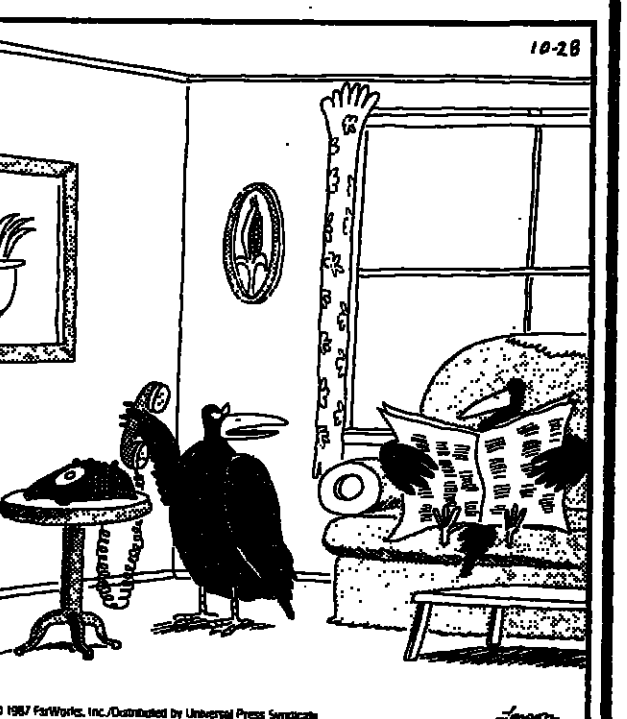
"Well, this isn't very promising."



Kangaroo nerds



"Say, ain't you a stranger in the part?"



"Louis... phonecaw."

GENDA

Exhibitions

■ Plastic (abstracts) art by Ayman Gharaibeh, at Royal Cultural Centre, ends today.

■ Works of the Iraqi artists Ismail Sheikhly, Khalid Kassab, Suzanne Sheikhly and Nour Behjet, entitled "Pointers of the Fifties", at Orfaly Art Gallery, the show ends today.

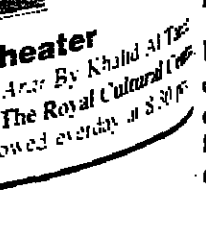
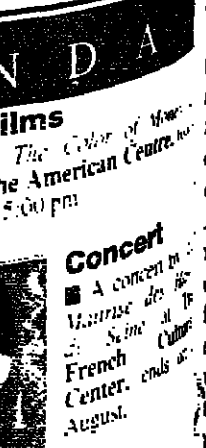
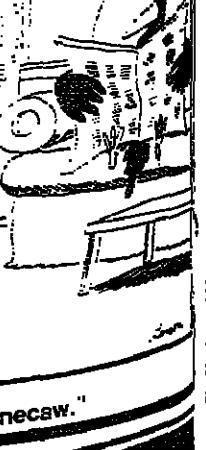
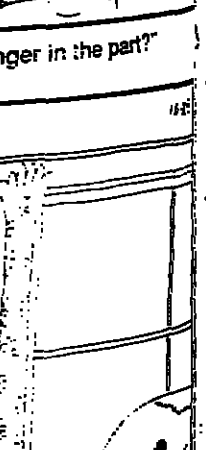
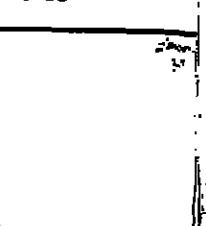
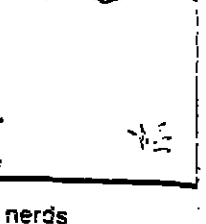
Films

■ The Color of Money, at The American Centre, today at 5:00 pm.

■ A concert by La Maitrise des Hauts de Seine at The French Cultural Center, ends on 2 August.

Theater

■ Arar, By Khalid Al Tarecfi, at The Royal Cultural Centre, showed everyday at 8:30 pm.



AUGUST 1996

A special section offering
fresh perspectives on
global issues prepared for
The Star

THE WORLD PAPER

PRINTED IN FIVE LANGUAGES
ON FIVE CONTINENTS



APPEARING IN: AMMAN • BANGKOK • BEIJING • BOGOTA • BOMBAY • BOSTON • CAIRO • CARACAS • HONG KONG • JAKARTA • KARACHI • KUALA LUMPUR • LIMA • MANILA • MEXICO CITY • MOSCOW • PANAMA CITY • QUITO • SAN JOSE • TAIPEI • TOKYO

Young people wonder if they can afford the house their parents built

Who gets the bills?

Parents feed, cloth and educate children who, in turn, care for them in their old age. This simple formula has worked for centuries, but it no longer adds up in today's mobile, rapidly changing world. More and more people, from the "gray panthers" who lobby US politicians to Vietnam's brash young capitalists, want to change the economic relationship between generations

By Joel Kotkin

LONG PERCEIVED AS a single nation made up predominately of two races, black and white, the United States is becoming increasingly multi-racial, with growing demographic divergences between the various regions of the nation.

Driving the demographic changes are a complex mixture of racial, economic and generational concerns. At its simplest, older whites are moving to areas where they do not have to deal with ethnic diversity or pay for the services—such as schools—needed by the youthful immigrant populations. By doing so, they are leaving the cities to a younger generation that is increasingly Asian and Hispanic.

Three major demographic patterns are clearly emerging in America today. The first, confined exclusively to key urban areas, is a multiracial, multicultural cosmopolitan pattern, exemplified by the Los Angeles, New York and Houston regions.

The second pattern, largely centered in the south and the upper Midwest, is essentially the traditional biracial America, with large African-American communities, particularly in the older core cities. And finally, there is a growing, virtually all-white "Valhalla" America, which is most evident both in the plains states and the Intermountain West between the Rockies and the Cascade mountains.

Each of these three demographic

sub-sets faces a somewhat different set of challenges. For the most part, the cosmopolitan regions, with their large immigrant populations, have expanding, youthful populations which require a rapid rate of economic growth to secure enough jobs. The Latino population in particular is growing rapidly, up nearly 44 percent between 1980 and 1990 while the Asian population, overwhelmingly concentrating in the cosmopolitan centers, more than doubled between 1980 and 1994. By 1994 net Latino population growth, also centered in these regions, was larger than that of Anglos nationwide.

The biracial regions, particularly in the South, enjoy rapid economic growth—but mostly in low-wage fields. There is an enormous, growing gap between the wages of its pri-

mary population groups. In contrast to the immigrant-dependent cosmopolitan areas, the South's strong population growth in the past decade—roughly 50 percent above the national average—stems largely from the migration of well over one million newcomers from the rest of the country.

The third demographic region has been the Valhalla areas. Long among the slowest growing areas, these regions, particularly in the Pacific Northwest and Intermountain States, have enjoyed the most rapid expansion in both their economies and populations.

In contrast to the conservative, traditionally pro-business South, the Valhalla areas are more ambivalent about turning their regions into powerful, new

▶ GETTING THE BILL PAGE 2

"So that's the theory of intergenerational economics. Getting the numbers to add up is another matter"



Argentines are all in the same leaky boat

Young inherit their parent's class

By Zoltan Mikolas

THERE IS A magnificent embankment promenade in Buenos Aires. Limestone bars, small pergolas with benches, a memorial for a great Argentinean sailor. There is just one thing missing. The river. Since the embankment was built many decades ago, the Rio de la Plata has gradually moved away. The riverside has been continuously filled in with earth and rubble from the city and now, walking along the pavement broken up by weeds, there is no water to be seen. Instead of being lapped by soft waves, the elegant stairs of this embankment lead to hard soil.

Something similar is happening to the structure of the Argentine society. A slow downward shift is taking place. Immigrant workers in the first half of the century could afford to send their children to college and fantasized about an Argentina which would rank among the richest nations of the world. Today, their dreams have been swept away by hard facts. Their children live with the constant fear of losing their jobs during the most productive period of their lives—if they haven't already fallen into the large pool of the unemployed.

Paradoxically, most of this process has taken place in a new era of democracy, under a government which has successfully implemented free-market reforms, attracted foreign investors and completed a massive privatization pro-

gram. Economic minister Domingo Cavallo's "convertibility plan," which pegged the Argentine peso to the US dollar, produced spectacular growth rates of 6 to 8.9 percent in the years 1991-1994. Inflation is under control.

But neoconservative policy carries a heavy price. In greater Buenos Aires, where around a third of the country's population lives, joblessness skyrocketed to over 25 percent by mid-1995. Moreover, the aftereffects of the Mexican "tequila crisis" have arrived in the country and show no signs of leaving. Falling domestic demand and timid new foreign investments have stalled growth.

According to a survey conducted last year by Estudio Graciela Romer y Asociados and published by the daily newspaper *Pagina 12*, more than one third of those asked consider their parents' world better than theirs. Asked if they would like to move to another country, more than a quarter of the Argentinean respondents answered with a firm "Yes."

Some 5 million people (out of 33 million) wishing they could leave their country? To what extent is this pessimism justified? Argentina has a very healthy demographic profile. The proportion of the most active segment of society (those between 25-59) has been—and will remain—around half of the population. If just one generation ago life was better,

couldn't you at least inherit some of your parents' wealth?

It depends on what family you were born into. There is a very strong contrast between the highest levels of society and the marginalized, lowest layers. Even between the upper and lower middle classes the differences are substantial. In general, living standards are much more defined by social group than by age.

This tendency is clearly demonstrated by a recent survey carried out by the consultant firm MORI Argentina. MORI divided society simply into the upper and the lower halves. Even with this rough classification, they found that there is a much wider income gap between these two "classes" than between any two age groups within the same class.

According to the data, the 18 to 24-year-olds of the "upper 7 million" (i.e. the upper half of the active population of around 13-14 million) start their working careers with an average annual income of \$6,300. In their next decade, they approach \$13,000 and, in their most productive age, between 36-55, they make \$15,500 per annum. These are by no means outstanding incomes by American or West European standards but may allow for the family to aggregate goods, savings and properties.

On the other hand, in the lower half of the society, one must reach 36-55 years

Respect buffers economic change

Vietnamese come to a fork in the "correct path"

By Do Le Chau

WHEN HOANG TUAN Dzung, 29, set up his own business in 1991, his father did not like it. He had arranged a good job for Dzung at a respectable research center in Hanoi upon his graduation from the Information Technology department of the Hanoi Polytechnic University. In his plan, his son would work there for some years, then go overseas for an MA or higher degree. Dzung's breakaway from this career path, after only a few months on this "dream" job, disappointed him.

When he

realized that all he could do was watch his son from the sideline, Hoang Dinl Hanh, the father, went about asking his son's friends to help keep him on "the correct path" and not to do anything against the law. That fear has remained with him.

His son, however, has no such fears. Dzung has been taking bolder and bolder steps in his venture, first in the budding computer market and now "wherever there's money to be made."

His steady rise in business has, bit by bit, persuaded his father to forgive him the "sin" of selling off the family's motorbike for some US\$500 to use as starting capital. Dzung's senior partner, Dang Hanh Trung, 37, was even more adventurous. He quit his hard-earned job as a researcher at a military institute and pooled all his family's money into the venture with Dzung.

Using \$900 of this money, they started CIE, now a private business group with interests in commerce, information technology and electronics. Initially, Trung and Dzung were the company's only staff. They purchased computer parts from importers, assembled CPUs at home and installed them for their customers. On the side, they tried to learn how to use the software so they could teach the customers. Once they sold a computer, they were constantly on the alert for opportunities to provide customers with post-sale service. "We tried very hard to offer a Japanese-style service as we understood it," recalls Dzung.

Today, their company has become a business group, with branches in many places across the country. CIE offers diversified services ranging from the installation of computer networks and telecommunications systems to designing computer programs to the production of biscuits.

CIE is just one of the many private businesses established in Hanoi—and elsewhere in Vietnam—at the turn of this decade, when market mechanisms

began to take roots in the economy. Different as they are in business and operating modes, they have much in common: they are led mostly by people born in the late 50s and the 60s, and their owners are extremely adventurous.

A favorite Vietnamese saying goes, "The bamboo grows old; out comes the shoot!" The bamboo gives birth to its shoot, protects its growth and eventually gives way to the young bamboo, no matter how reluctant they may be to take over.

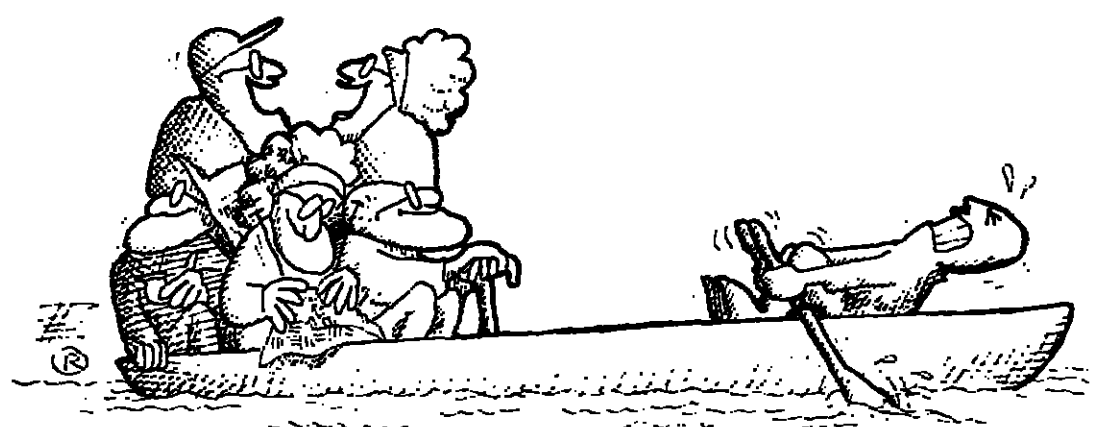
A similar generational change is taking place in Vietnam, especially within the economy. While most old people appear more and more comfortable with their children's economic ventures, many are increasingly worried that the children, driven by profit, could venture in wrong and immoral directions. Worse, they may one day forget their traditional values.

"My grandson always laughs at me, saying, 'Grandma, you must be cooking it up!'", journalist Trinh Thi Nhan tells her colleagues at the Vietnam News Agency. Her grandson is reacting to her stories about the old days and the desperate shortages during the Vietnam war. Her experience is not uncommon. Many other retired parents have complained about their children's blithe attitude to their miserable past.

"I never want to do anything to hurt my parents' feelings," said Dang Quoc Huy, 37, a self-made billionaire in industrial electric equipment manufacturing. "They may not understand what I am doing, but I always remind myself that without them, especially my mother, I would never have been able to even take off. I am seeing to it that whatever wealth I make will be used first of all to help them enjoy their old age."

That attitude is pretty common among the Vietnamese *nouveau riches*. One of the first things that happened as Vietnam revived economically in recent years was the resurgence of tradi-

▶ CORRECT PATH PAGE 2



The new framework for intergenerational economics in Vietnam?

Cost of pensions threatens to divide a reunified nation

Aging Germany weighs heavily on its social contract

By Emilia Jaroshek

GERMANY IS BUSY beating a plowshare back into a sword, and both young and old fear its blade will cut through the ties that bind generations and families.

This unease stems from a battle to fill the gaping hole in the country's welfare budget. While seeking to assure the public it has no intention of ending the welfare state, Germany's federal government is threatening a complete overhaul of the current system in a determined bid to save 50 billion deutschmarks (DM). Cash is tighter than ever before, and the money has to come from somewhere. Moves are afoot, moves that are proving unpopular.

For a long time, Germans in the higher age group have been worried by reports of a growing deficit in pension funds, unhappy at the prospect of increased contributions for decreased returns. Those in the lower age group fear that they will be asked to make up the shortfall today, only to find the cupboard bare when they reach retirement age.

As it is, the pension system lives a hand-to-mouth existence. Now Labor Minister Norbert Blum is facing a DM26 billion shortfall. The equations used to calculate intergenerational economics are no longer working out.

A study by the University of Cologne shows that the rise in life expectancy, coupled with a present low birth rate, is throwing the sums out of balance. Germany can count on at least 1.5 million extra—and presently unaccounted for—65-year-olds joining the



Whistling in the dark: the number of German pensioners is growing faster than the state system can cope with

ranks of pension-seekers by the year 2030. The figure for 91 to 100-year-olds, those needing the most extensive care, is expected to nearly triple from the 210,000 in 1991 to 600,000 by 2030. Meanwhile, 39 percent of all employable people today are under 30; by 2030 only an estimated 20 percent will be under 30.

Even without such unnerving statistics cluttering the horizon, the government would be forced to act just to relieve the present-day headaches.

Germans are beginning to feel the edge of family politics. Under new regulations, working adults are finding themselves paying a lot more for aged parents or divorced spouses living off

state welfare. For example, a married man with a DM5,000 net monthly income, a non-working wife and a rent for his home of around DM1,000 had to contribute DM96 a month to his mother's support. Now he will have to fork out a staggering DM1,070. As Berlin's State Secretary for Social Assistance, Armin Tschoepe, succinctly put it: "A sword has been sharpened."

On the top of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's priority list for some time has been raising the pensionable age for women from age 60 to 65 in a series of phases starting from next year. The age for men would be raised from 63 to 65 in the year 2000. An obvious benefit for the government; the older generation works longer, contributes for longer and has fewer years left in which to draw benefits.

But the proposed law came under such heavy fire from the opposition Social Democrats—and even from within the ranks of Kohl's own Christian Democrats—that it has been shelved. The raising of the pensionable age for women will now start in 2000, along with the men.

Wolfgang Klauder, director of the Institute for Labor Market and Employment Research in Nuremberg, fails to see the wisdom behind the project. "If the pensionable age of women is raised, (you) will have another three million women on an ever-narrowing job market. There are vast numbers of young unemployed across Europe. Why keep on an often unwilling, aging work force when you can draw on this young market?"

Pensioners already are feeling the effects of the present whopping deficit in state funds. According to Federal Department of Labor spokesman, Lüdger Reuber, those in the West get a miserable 0.95 percent raise this July. Those in the East will be no better off with only an increase of 1.2 percent (0.56 after deductions) instead of the 3.9 percent hike originally planned.

Meanwhile, from July contributions by workers shoot up to 20 percent—and this after the hike from 18.6 to 19.2 percent in January.

Free Democrats Party chairman Wolfgang Gerhardt sees nothing but disillusionment ahead. He says state pensions are no longer safe for future generations. "The whole intergenerational contract needs reforming right from its base. Nobody with a clear conscience can tell 30 to 40-year-olds today that their pensions are secure. The best bet is investment in the more dependable private funds."

By the end of the century, 300,000 German companies could be transferred to the younger generation. These inheritances have stirred a heated debate over the question of inheritance and capital gains taxes. Social Democrat-controlled provinces make no secret of their wish to use these taxes to take for an extra DM2.3 billion bite out of these transfers.

GETTING THE BILL

Continued from page 1

competitive centers. This reflects, in part, the fact that the new migrants tend to be older, less affluent and less well educated, often close to retirement age. Roughly one fourth of people moving into Colorado, for example, are over 55; the migration has been so much older than predicted that projected increases in at least two local school districts did not materialize.

Since many of the newcomers to these regions are older Anglos, a critical challenge now is to attract enough younger workers to maintain the industrial base while preserving their treasured natural and social environment. Not becoming another crowded, expensive, cacophonous New York or Los Angeles in many ways is the key Valhalla mantra.

"What we're seeing now," notes William Frey, a demographer at the Population Study Center at the University of Michigan, "is a flight from diversity. It's becoming much for a lot of the white middle class. Too much stimulation and too many immigrants."

A somewhat divergent form of demographic balkanization is taking place in such low-immigrant, biracial regions such as in the South. John Kasarda, director of the Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise at the University of North Carolina, notes that virtually all the population and job growth in this region now takes place in those suburbs most distant from their urban cores.

In contrast, such avoidance is increasingly impossible in cosmopolitan cities, most notably Los Angeles, that have been experiencing both massive white flight to the hinterland and massive immigration. California's foreign-born population swelled 80 percent dur-

ing the 1980s to over 6.5 million. These new populations tend to be both younger and more highly participative in the workforce, with Latino and Asian males having the highest labor participation rates in the country. Asian and Latino labor force growth na-

tionwide between 1994 and 2005 is expected to expand by roughly 36 percent, roughly three times the national average. As a result, cosmopolitan areas with large concentrations of these people, such as greater Los Angeles, which will add roughly two million residents during that time, will experience disproportionate increases in demand for schools, infrastructure and jobs far greater than that required in other, more homogeneous regions.

Already in Los Angeles, south Florida, Houston and New York there are growing gaps between the resident population, which is increasingly made up of recent immigrants, and the largely native-born electorate. In California, for example, Anglos make up roughly 60 percent of the population but four-fifths of the electorate. More conservative and generally older than the working population, voters have proven themselves to far less interested, for example, in investing in such things as schools and transportation infrastructure, which would be largely by newcomers and their children.

But the divergences between the regions may become even harder to deal with in the future. Current and projected migration patterns virtually guarantee a growing racial and cultural chasm between the cosmopolitan cities, the biracial South and the growing Valhalla hinterland not seen since the divisions that led to the Civil War.

By 2020, according to projections by the University of Michigan's Frey, the country will be divided into distinctly ethnic-cultural regions. In 12 states over 80 percent of youngsters under the age of 17 will be white. In another 12, including California, Texas and most Northeastern states, young whites will be in a distinct minority.

Driven by these trends, the inhabitants of these differing Americas are likely to have radically divergent perspectives about the nation's essential economic, social and cultural character. After 100 years of homogenization, the America of the coming century may be an increasingly disunited assembly of regions and states.



EMILIA JAROSHEK WRITES FOR THE BERLIN-BASED DAILY NEWSPAPER BZ.

CORRECT PATH

Continued from page 1

tional customs and a stronger emphasis on family values. Many young and successful entrepreneurs have chosen to invest heavily in building new houses for their parents to enjoy some modern luxuries before they are too old. Those who miss such an opportunity are often heard confessing to their friends about their "debt burdens" to their late parents.

This, in a sense, is a psychological trait of the Vietnamese. It can be found in overseas Vietnamese communities as well. But, more often than not, young entrepreneurs do not like their parents to intervene in their business. Outwardly, they may say they want their parents to retire completely and enjoy life. But inwardly, they find them out of touch with the fast-moving reality around them.

"My parents still think of me as a kid," said a middle-aged entrepreneur in Hanoi. "They don't seem to care how much I make, but always fear that I might get myself in trouble with the authorities as well as out there in the market."

On the national level, these generation gaps have been partly translated into new regulations and a general reluctance to give young people more scope to conduct affairs, especially in the public sector. Young people, meanwhile, tend to think that their better education gives them an advantage over their elders and that they have nothing to lose if they take risks.

Curiously, in Vietnam, as young people have grown more comfortable with the market economy over the past years, they have shown a stronger inclination to take old people's advice. On the other hand, old people have grown to accept young people's energetic charge. This may be a reason why generational changes in Vietnam's economy have not been as shocking as in other countries.

DO LE CHAU IS DEPUTY EDITOR OF The Vietnam Courier, A HANOI-BASED NEWSPAPER.

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The Star's TV GUIDE

Programs on JTV from 3-9 August

ENGLISH PROGRAMS

SATURDAY

2:00—Holy Koran
2:30—Moomin
2:38—Pumpkin Patch
2:42—Here's Lucy
3:07—Varieties
3:25—Olympic Games
7:00—News in French
7:10—Olympic Games
10:00—News in English
10:15—Olympic Games

SUNDAY

1:00—Holy Koran
1:03—The Mask
1:28—Here's Lucy
1:55—Olympic Games
7:00—News in French
7:10—Olympic Games
10:00—News in English
10:15—Olympic Games
3:55—Closing Ceremony

MONDAY

3:00—Holy Koran
3:05—Adventures On The Rainbow Pond
3:30—Richie Rich
3:45—Playabout
4:15—Gillette World Special
4:30—Bustin's Loose
5:00—French Programs
7:30—News Headlines
7:35—Milton Fenwick
8:00—The Hypnotic World of Paul McKenna
8:00—Madlock
9:10—Paha Sapa
10:00—News at Ten
10:25—The Bold & The Beautiful
11:10—Mancuso

TUESDAY

3:00—Holy Koran
3:05—Iris
3:15—Captain Planet
3:45—Hot Shots

WEDNESDAY

3:00—Holy Koran
3:05—The Flintstones
3:30—Iris

THURSDAY

3:00—Holy Koran
3:05—Double Dragon
3:30—The New 3 Stooges
3:35—NBA Basketball

FRIDAY

3:00—Holy Koran
3:05—Dumb and Dumber
3:30—Bush School
3:40—Name your Adventure
4:10—Crystal Maze

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Olympic Games

4:00—Boh Morrison show
4:30—Ait
5:00—French Programs
7:30—News Headlines
7:35—Blossom
8:00—Valley of The Kings
8:30—Encounter
9:10—Star Trek
10:00—News at Ten
10:25—Human Target
11:15—Hawai 5-0
11:45—My Two Wives

3:40—The Adventurers
3:55—Kelly
4:30—Earth Revealed
5:00—French Programs
7:30—News Headlines
7:35—Evening Shade
8:00—Super Stars of action
8:30—Chancer
10:00—News at Ten
10:25—The Bold & The Beautiful
11:10—Bugs

4:30—Take Your Pick
5:00—French Programs
7:30—News Headlines
7:35—Carol & Company
8:00—Taratata
9:10—Star Trek
10:00—News at Ten
10:25—Feature Film: Finding Mary March, starring: Rick Boland & Tara Manuel

5:00—French Programs

7:30—News Headlines
7:35—UN Programs
8:00—Nasty Boys
8:45—Secret Weapons
9:10—The Wanderer
10:00—News at Ten
10:25—Feature Film: Joe Kid, starring: Clint Eastwood & John Saxon

PROGRAMMES EN FRANÇAIS

SAMEDI

5:00—Dessins animés
5:15—Emission jeunesse
La vie devant moi
5:30—Jeux
Pyramide
6:00—Série
Château Vallon
7:00—Le Journal
7:15—Faut pas rêver
«L'Inde»

DIMANCHE

5:00—Dessins animés
5:15—Emission jeunesse
La vie devant moi
5:30—Jeux
Pyramide
6:00—Magazine
Envoyé spécial
«La septième merveille du monde»
7:00—Le Journal
7:15—Magazine
Sports et musique

LUNDI

5:00—Dessins animés
5:15—Divertissement
L'école des fans
«Gilbert Montagne»
6:00—Magazine
Thalassa
«Mal de terre»

MARDI

5:00—Dessins animés
5:15—Emission jeunesse
La vie devant moi
5:30—Jeux
Pyramide
6:00—Série
Simonon
«Le mouchoir de Joseph»
7:00—Le Journal
7:15—Magazine
Sports et musique

MERCREDI

5:00—Dessins animés
5:15—Emission jeunesse
La vie devant moi
5:30—Jeux
Pyramide
6:00—Série
Simonon
«Le mouchoir de Joseph»
7:00—Le Journal
7:15—Magazine
Sports et musique

JEUDI

5:00—Dessins animés
5:15—Emission jeunesse
La vie devant moi
5:30—Jeux
Pyramide
6:00—Série
Simonon
«Le mouchoir de Joseph»
7:00—Le Journal
7:15—Magazine
Sports et musique

VENDREDI

5:00—Dessins animés
5:15—Emission jeunesse
La vie devant moi
5:30—Jeux
Pyramide
6:00—Série
Simonon
«Le mouchoir de Joseph»
7:00—Le Journal
7:15—Magazine
Sports et musique

Programs are subject to change by JTV

Cinema

"JUMANJI" (Columbia/TriStar): Chris Van Allsburg's children's story about an unusual board game comes to life in the hands of director Joe Johnston ("Honey, I Shrunk the Kids"), as Robin Williams plays a man long trapped inside the game... and when he emerges, he brings exotic creatures with him. They go on a rampage, yielding a special-effects field day; Bonnie Hunt and Kirsten Dunst co-star. *** (PG: P, V)

"A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE" (Fox): Jessica Lange and Alec Baldwin reprise the classic roles they performed on Broadway several years earlier — Blanche DuBois and Stanley Kowalski — in this made-for-TV production of the Pulitzer Prize-winning play, which uses the original Tennessee Williams text. Diane Lane portrays Stella, and John Goodman appears as Mitch. *** (Not rated: AS, P, V)

"HELD OVER: 'HOW TO MAKE AN AMERICAN QUILT'" (MCA/Universal, 1): In this fine adaptation of a widely loved novel, Winona Ryder plays a young woman who gets valuable lessons in life from her female elders as she debates whether to marry her long-time beau. The expert, female-dominated cast also includes Anne Bancroft, Ellen Burstyn, Kate Nelligan, Alfre Woodard and poet Maya Angelou. *** (PG-13: AS, P)

"WHITE MAN'S BURDEN" (HBO): A race-reversal parable, this drama casts John Travolta as a factory worker who loses his job, leading him to blame the owner (Harry Belafonte, in what was his first major screen role in 20 years)... and to seek revenge by kidnapping the man. Kelly Lynch ("Drugstore Cowboy") plays Travolta's wife, and Margaret Avery ("The Color Purple") also appears. ** (R: AS, P, V)

"THE ARISTOCATS" (Disney): The animated 1970 Disney classic about adventurous felines — in which Walt Disney himself had a major hand creatively — deals with a cat (voice by Eva Gabor) who's left a fortune by a Frenchwoman. However, a sinister butler plots to take the inheritance; among the others heard as characters are Phil Harris, Hermoine Baddeley, Scamman Crothers and ventriloquist Paul Winchell. *** (G)

COMING SOON: "CASINO" (MCA/Universal, May 21): Robert De Niro plays the operator of a Las Vegas gambling den in director Martin Scorsese's drama, also starring Sharon Stone. (R)

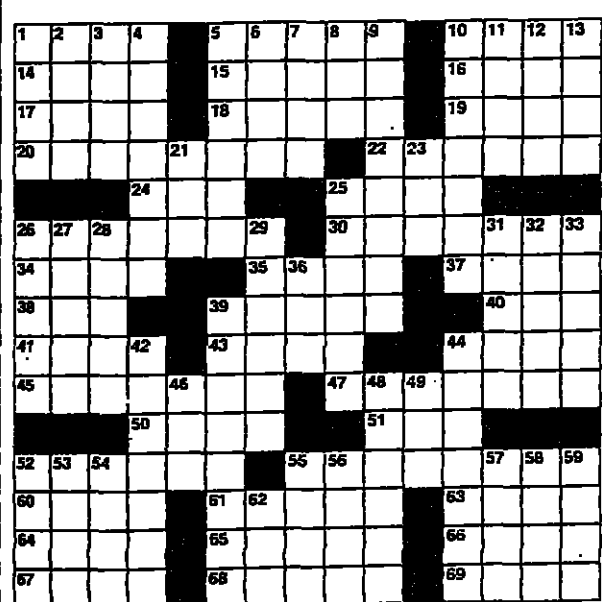
"GOLDENEYE" (MGM/UA, May 21): Pierce Brosnan assumes the role of James Bond, as the superspy battles villains trying to commandeer a powerful satellite. (PG-13)

"LES MISERABLES" (Warner, May 21): French superstar Jean-Paul Belmondo plays the pursued Jean Valjean in director Claude Lelouch's version of the classic. (R)

"NICK OF TIME" (Paramount, May 21): Johnny Depp plays a businessman whose young daughter is kidnapped, to force him to commit a political assassination. (R)

FAMILY VIEWING GUIDE KEY: AS, adult situations; N, nudity; P, profanity; V, violence; GV, particularly graphic violence.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS
1 — Well
5 — Choir
10 — Trade
14 — Opera
15 — Overcast
16 — Biblical
17 — Mexico
18 — Dinosaur
19 — Great Lake
20 — Practicing
22 — Stan
24 — Bo Derek
25 — Applaud
26 — Distressed
30 — Hashes over
34 — Break
35 — Asian
37 — Profound
38 — GI address
39 — Iron
40 — Scottish
41 — Mailed
44 — X-ray of films
45 — Satisfied
47 — Furniture
50 — Be bested
51 — Newspaper
52 — Cat under
55 — Removing
60 — El —
61 — Ingenious
63 — Scant
64 — Neighbor of
65 — Track
66 — Prefix for
67 — Deaf
68 — Suffix after
69 — Lament
DOWN
1 — Chicago
3 — Refrain
4 — Were
5 — Repair a
6 — Portent
7 — Tennis ace
8 — WWII
9 — Pioneers
10 — Brewed tea
11 — Friendly
12 — Opera solo
13 — Hammer
21 — Clergyman's
22 — title: abor.
23 — Fedora, for
24 — Difficult
25 — Hold firmly
26 — Drive away
27 — ear and
28 — out —
29 — Riddle
30 — Russian
31 — leader, once
32 — Rental
33 — Asparagus
34 — Had a
35 — session
36 — Gifts
37 — Cat under
38 — Making a
39 — speech
40 — Nimble
41 — The sun
42 — Hubbub
43 — L.A. team
44 — Landed
45 — Vessel of
46 — Coin
47 — At any time
48 — Brainstorm
49 — Alcoholic
50 — Drab
51 — Islet
52 — The sun
53 — Hubbub
54 — L.A. team
55 — Landed
56 — Vessel of
57 — Coin
58 — At any time
59 — Brainstorm
60 — Alcoholic
61 — Drab
62 — Islet

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

By Linda Black

Weekly Tip: The moon's in Aries, indicating a tendency to spend recklessly. Wait to go shopping.

Aries (March 21-April 19). You're feisty but take care. Impetuous actions could cost you a bundle. You could get a lot of money. Control yourself.

Taurus (April 20-May 20). Some sort of annoying nattering bothers you. Take care of whatever it is, so you can concentrate on a new project.

Gemini (May 21-June 21). Team sports and group projects go well. Discuss your financial affairs with an expert and fund your retirement.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). A militant supervisor could get all worked up. Keep a low profile, especially if you don't agree. Meet with friends to make plans.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Avoid a stodgy supervisor so you can make time to play with your friends. You'd better be prepared to give the boss what he or she wants.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Don't buy an expensive item no matter how much you want it. Wait and get a good warranty. There may be a reason to take it back later.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Avoid a fight with a stressed friend. The temper will blow over as quickly as it came. You've got other problems — specifically, finances.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Watch out if you're working with sharp objects or machinery. Impetuous behavior causes accidents. Let your partner take the lead, but don't be a mind-numbed robot.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Romance blossoms. That could be awkward, since there's lots of work to be done. Postpone your romantic rendezvous.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Be careful in your domestic environment. You could cut yourself on a sharp instrument, or else a friend's in a rotten mood.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Investigate a question that has you bothered. Cut through to the heart of the matter. Domestic problems dominate your time.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll be able to concentrate marvelously. Be careful, though. Some of what you learn may have an editorial slant.

If You're Having a Birthday This Week: A voice from the past can keep you from making a mistake in your future. Heed unwelcome advice, then put in the necessary correction to win.

Bridge

Read the Spot
By Tannah Hirsch

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♠ J 8 7 5
♥ 10 6 2
♦ 10 5 3
♣ 5 4 3

WEST
♠ 10 6 4
♥ A 8 3
♦ J 7 6 2
♣ Q 9 7

EAST
♠ K Q 9 3 2
♥ K J 9 4
♦ Void
♣ K J 6 2

SOUTH
♠ A
♥ Q 7 5
♦ A K Q 9 8 4
♣ A 10 8

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass Pass 1♠ 3NT
Dbl Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♠
Pay attention to the spot-cards partner plays — they can be the key to the defense on many a hand. Failure to do so cost East 300, possibly 600, points on this hand from a rubber-bridge game.

South's jump to three no trump was obviously based on a long minor, which declarer hoped would run. Since West had both minors

stopped, the double was well-judged.

West led the four of spades, dummy played low and the queen lost to the ace. Declarer started on diamonds, but had to surrender a trick to West. The ten of spades was covered by the jack and taken with the king.

West alertly shifted to the jack of hearts and, whether or not declarer covered, the defenders collected two spades, four hearts and a diamond — down three, for 800.

That was a nice enough return, but it should have been even sweeter. Let's go back and take a look at the very first trick.

East could see that West's opening lead of the four was the lowest spade out. Therefore, it could be only from one of two holdings: a singleton or three to the ten (South surely held the ace of spades for the three-no-trump overcall). Since West was unlikely to lead a singleton on this auction, it had to be from a three-card fragment.

Therefore, East should have played a low spade to the first trick. If declarer again concedes a trick to the jack of diamonds instead of cashing out, another spade from West when in with the diamond would allow the defenders to collect four spade tricks, four hearts and a diamond for a five-trick set!

Jumble

Unscramble these four words, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

THAPC
NIVEL
BYRBAC
ACLOSE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: ○○○○○○○○○

Answers: PITCH LIVEN CHAIRBY SOLACE
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Words of Wisdom

Imagination is what keeps us pushing beyond what we believe our limits to be.

Being innocent is not the same as being virtuous.

To be pitied is to be condemned for bad judgment or bad luck.

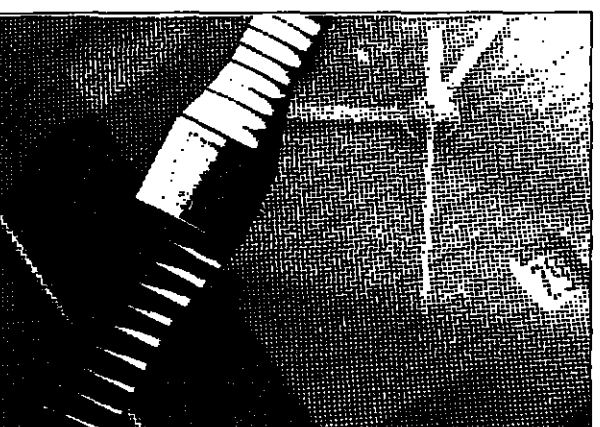
Reputations aren't built on what one plans to do.

When the cup of life is full, carry it cautiously.

Common sense is simply the instinct for doing the right thing at the right time.

The possible becomes so only after the impossible is attempted.

Rado presents innovative high-tech ceramics



RADO 'SINTRA' has a force of character with its legendary watch models such as the oval DiaStar, the anatomically shaped DiaStar 'Anatom' and the sensational 'Ceramica', which received two top international design awards. Rado's combination of a pioneering attitude in product development and design with the quest for new technological solutions has made it the trendsetter in avant-garde watch design. Today, the pioneering Swiss company introduces another milestone with the Rado 'Sintra', a watch made entirely from ceramics. Rado has succeeded in giving ultra-hard high-tech ceramics a brilliant, platinum-like lustre.

It began in the early 80's to use space flight-proven high-tech ceramics to manufacture innovative watches. Determining factors were the lightness, the resistance and the enduring beauty of this material. But the natural attractiveness, the intense brilliance, the smoothness and the extraordinary wear-comfort play an important part too.

The Star

Jordan's political, economic and cultural weekly

On Line

http://www.arabia.com/Star.

Go to E-arabia city and select the News Tower...



ARABIA ON LINE

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le between 1984 and 91 to expand by roughly 30 percent, says the Los Angeles, which has two million residents. The city will experience a surge in demand for schools and jobs far greater than in other, more home-

ready in Los Angeles, as Austin and New York. The gaps between the two cities, which is increasing as immigrants and the labor force. In California, the city's population but four-fold rate. More conservative, older than the working population, have proven themselves. For example, in the things as schools and the infrastructure, which work by newcomers and there the divergences between may become even larger in the future. Current migration patterns involving racial and cultural differences in the cosmopolitan cities, south and the growing land not seen since the end to the Civil War. 2020, according to the University of Michigan, the country will be divided by ethnic-cultural regions. Over 50 percent of the country's population will be of age of 17 will be white, 12, including California. Most Northeastern states will be in a distinct manner by these trends. These differing American

ly to be called a prelude about a nation's economic and changes. 100 million people, the fact the country is increasing, united or of regional status.

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Le Jourdain

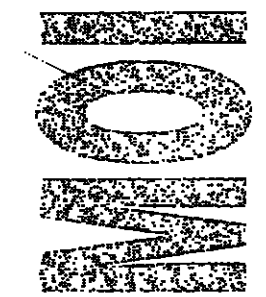
Supplément en français du Star

Une Syrienne en or aux JO d'Atlanta

En remportant dimanche la médaille d'or de l'heptathlon aux Jeux olympiques d'Atlanta, Ghada Shouaa (notre photo) a offert à son pays, la Syrie, sa première médaille d'or olympique. Cette jeune athlète de 23 ans avait déjà été sacrée championne du monde d'heptathlon l'année dernière à Göteborg. Selon la rumeur, les autorités syriennes lui auraient alors offert une maison pour ce premier titre. Cette fois, c'est à un palais qu'elle peut s'attendre. Se déclarant «très heureuse, fier et honoré», le président syrien Hafez el Assad s'est en effet réjoui de cette première médaille d'or olympique syrienne qui était aussi la première médaille d'or arabe aux Jeux d'Atlanta. Auparavant, la Syrie n'avait remporté qu'une médaille olympique d'argent en 1984 aux Jeux de Los Angeles. Après ces deux titres, qui sont les plus prestigieux qu'elle puisse remporter, Ghada Shouaa entend bien continuer de faire parler d'elle. «Je n'ai que 23 ans et encore beaucoup de temps devant moi. Je veux désormais me préparer pour battre le record du monde de l'heptathlon aux championnats du monde qui auront lieu l'année prochaine à Athènes.»



SELON



Le festival de Jérash fête cette année sa quinzième édition. Un anniversaire qui indique que le peuple jordanien a déjà connu beaucoup d'ambiances festives dans les années passées.

En tant que pays cherchant à promouvoir le tourisme, la Jordanie s'est attachée depuis la signature de la paix avec Israël à développer cette manifestation qui permet de mieux présenter sa culture aux étrangers tout en offrant une distraction aux habitants. C'est un support pour vulgariser la culture en touchant toutes les couches de la société jordanienne.

La programmation comprend aussi bien des récitals de piano, de l'opéra, des ballets que des spectacles de folklore traditionnel. Un mélange culturel qui n'a malheureusement pas réussi en quinze ans à créer un réel intérêt dans le public qui se montre peu sensible à la richesse des spectacles proposés et du cadre historique.

Le second jour du festival, lors du concert du musicien jordanien Sakher Hattar au Centre culturel royal, l'attitude d'un des spectateurs a choqué tout le monde. Ne semblant pas très réceptif à la musique du joueur de oud, il n'a pas hésité à bailler à haute voix plusieurs fois pendant le concert. Aucunement gêné, il a ensuite parlé sans aucune retenue à haute voix avec ses «vieux». Devant la musique jouée qui incarne l'art de ses ancêtres, une telle attitude ne peut être tolérée.

Ce non-respect ne se limite pas à la performance d'un artiste car il touche l'ensemble du festival et le cadre historique dans lequel il a lieu. Lorsque la chanteuse libanaise Majida el Roumi chantait des textes profonds vantant l'amour patriotique, des exemplaires du journal de Jérash, des canettes de coca et des bouteilles d'eau recouvraient les gradins du théâtre Sud de Jérash. Au théâtre Artémis, où la pièce Richard III était jouée par la troupe OldSocks, l'état des lieux était le même.

Une artiste palestinienne qui a été invitée à participer à l'exposition d'artisanat dans la rue des colonnades n'a pas pu rester plus de trois jours au festival. «Constatant un tel manque de respect vis-à-vis de mes œuvres, je n'ai pas pu rester», explique Maha Saca. Photographie, elle tente par son travail de préserver l'histoire de certaines traditions palestiniennes, telles que celle des robes brodées.

En se rendant à Jérash et en parlant avec certains responsables de ce festival, on se rend compte que plus qu'une question d'ordures ou de déchets, il existe un réel problème de respect. C'est un problème de responsabilisation du public. Chacun doit comprendre que ce festival a pour but de donner la meilleure image possible de ce pays en valorisant sa culture et ses traditions.

Akram Masarweh, le directeur du festival, ne cesse d'ailleurs de répéter que la réussite du festival de Jérash ne repose pas que sur les épaules de l'organisation.

Il va même plus loin, considérant cette manifestation comme étant une obligation de la nationalité jordanienne devant être à ce titre respectée. ■

Oroub el Abed

Palestiniens

Un salaire au goût amer

Si le retour des travailleurs palestiniens en Israël est aujourd'hui accueilli comme une bonne nouvelle, beaucoup redoutent la dépendance de l'économie palestinienne à celle d'Israël.

«Il est honteux

de faire venir des travailleurs thaïlandais et roumains à la place des Palestiniens» a déclaré, voilà une vingtaine de jours, le président israélien E. Weizman. «En ce qui concerne ces derniers (ndlr: les Palestiniens), on sait d'où ils viennent et on les fait revenir».

Il ne s'agit certainement pas d'un geste de générosité de la part du chef de l'Etat hébreu envers les Palestiniens, mais d'un calcul purement économique. La venue d'un travailleur thaïlandais ou roumain implique pour les patrons israéliens des frais élevés par rapport aux travailleurs palestiniens: un billet d'avion, une assurance, un logement... Les Palestiniens arrivent eux à cinq heures du matin sur le marché du travail israélien et rentrent chez eux le soir venu, avec en poche des salaires inférieurs à ceux de leurs collègues roumains ou thaïlandais.

De plus, avec l'argent israélien qu'ils gagnent, ils vont acheter des produits israéliens et ne vont pas expédier cet argent à leurs familles qui vivent à l'étranger. Les avantages sont donc nombreux pour les patrons israéliens. Le nouveau gouvernement israélien se montre d'ailleurs beaucoup plus réceptif aux demandes des patrons israéliens que le gouvernement précédent. Il a prouvé en décidant dimanche la levée partielle du nouveau blocus imposé aux territoires palestiniens depuis le 26 juillet à la suite d'un attentat commis par un commando palestinien qui a coûté la vie à trois Israéliens. 17.500 travailleurs palestiniens de la bande de Gaza ont été autorisés à reprendre le travail en Israël.

Selon des sources israéliennes et palestiniennes, ce chiffre devrait atteindre 45.000, conformément aux accords signés entre Israël et



Des ouvriers palestiniens de nouveau autorisés à travailler en Israël après la levée du blocus israélien

L'OLP.

Plusieurs journaux israéliens ont fait état de plans gouvernementaux visant à supprimer les barrières militaires dressées autour des villes palestiniennes. Une telle mesure conduirait à augmenter le nombre de travailleurs palestiniens en Israël à 120.000, comme à l'époque du Likoud entre 1977 et 1982.

L'indépendance économique en question

On peut s'interroger aujourd'hui sur les raisons qui motivent ces nouvelles mesures. Elles s'inscrivent en fait dans le cadre de la politique générale du Likoud qui, rejetant le principe de l'identité palestinienne acceptée par les Travailleurs, refusent toute séparation

entre l'Autorité palestinienne et Israël.

Et en vertu de ce principe, ils souhaitent lier l'économie palestinienne naissante à la leur.

Le gouvernement israélien devrait ainsi continuer à favoriser le travail des Palestiniens tout en se montrant de plus en plus ferme vis-à-vis des autorités palestiniennes.

Une politique qui devrait placer la population et les autorités palestiniennes dans une situation difficile lors des discussions sur le statut définitif des territoires: à savoir le chômage massif ou bien l'intégration à Israël. ■

De Gaza, Hassan Balawi

Société

Abou Ali nous livre ses secrets de bouquiniste

Abou Ali tient en basse-ville la plus vieille librairie de Jordanie. Un kiosque d'à peine un mètre sur un qui voit défiler tous les amoureux de littérature de la capitale. Un endroit où l'on vient parfois simplement pour discuter, ou bien pour dénicher quelques ouvrages interdits dans les pays voisins.

Les officiels mis à part. Abou Ali est l'homme le plus connu de Jordanie. Une popularité qu'il doit à son kiosque situé en plein cœur d'Amman. Grâce à sa boutique qui dépasse à peine le mètre carré, il est en effet le plus gros vendeur de livres de tout le royaume hachémite.

Nombreux sont ses clients à venir d'Irak, d'Égypte et surtout des pays du Golfe avec toute une liste de livres souvent prohibés ou censurés dans leurs pays. Sa réputation hors de la Jordanie s'est faite surtout grâce à ces livres frappés d'interdiction ailleurs.

Parmi les amis proches d'Abou Ali se trouvent beaucoup d'écrivains, jeunes ou vieux, non seulement en Jordanie mais aussi en Syrie, au Liban et jusqu'en Égypte.

La soixantaine bien portante, maigre, moustachu, il est le sosie de l'écrivain saoudien Abdel

Rahman Mounif, un romancier banni et exilé à Amman, puis à Damas. Certains disent que c'est à cause de leur façon commune d'ajuster leurs lunettes. Car les deux ont tellement dévoré de livres qu'ils ne voient plus très bien, ou très loin. Mais cela reste à prouver.

Car l'homme voyait déjà loin lorsqu'en 1951 il a réalisé que le réseau de distribution de livres et de journaux ne fonctionnait pas dans ce pays. Pour l'améliorer, il fallait tout d'abord proposer des livres répondant aux envies des lecteurs. Or, selon Hassan Abou Ali, c'étaient des livres politiques que les lecteurs voulaient à l'époque, ainsi que des ouvrages sur la nouvelle vague de poésie libre.

Les années cinquante ont connu des bouleversements sociaux, religieux et politiques.

A cette époque, la Syrie connaissait un coup d'Etat militaire

tous les deux mois. C'était l'époque de la montée du nationalisme arabe, celle où l'étoile du président égyptien Nasser brillait dans le ciel du Moyen-Orient. Et c'est à cette époque qu'un livre avec une couverture rouge, selon les souvenirs d'Abou Ali, marqué de la croix gammée et du portrait d'Hitler, est apparu. Depuis 1953 et jusqu'à aujourd'hui, ce livre, traduit par on ne sait qui et à partir de quelle langue, reste le livre le plus vendu par Abou Ali. Un ouvrage qui ressort tous les deux ans chez une nouvelle maison d'édition. Avec à chaque fois un nouveau nom de traducteur, un nom d'emprunt, alors qu'aucune phrase n'a été changée.

Politique, poésie et bouffe

Celui qui passe devant le kiosque d'Abou Ali trouvera à côté de Mein Kampf le dernier ouvrage du Premier ministre israélien Benjamin Netanyahu. Une place au soleil, et celui de Shimon Pérès. Pour un Proche-Orient nouveau.

«Chaque fois qu'un nouveau livre politique sort, il se vend comme des petits pains», commente Abou Ali. «Ensuite, c'est un nouveau livre politique qui prend le relais.»

Au chapitre des records de vente, on trouve en quatrième position Les mémoires d'Henri Kissinger. Derrière Mein Kampf, Les histoires d'ouïre, tome un, livre relatant les colères de Dieu frappant les mécréants et en troisième position Le guide de la parfaite cuisine.

Cet ouvrage a aussi connu une belle histoire depuis sa parution en 1959. Conçu tout d'abord comme un petit livre

Pendant deux semaines de festival, c'est une spectaculaire procession culturelle internationale qui a défilé sur les pavés de l'ancienne ville romaine de Jérash.

Solide et fière, cette ville a résisté tout au long de l'Histoire aux invasions. Et aujourd'hui, elle ouvre ses bras, mais cette fois volontairement, pour être envahie par les cultures de monde. Des cultures qui à leur tour s'intéressent à l'Histoire et notamment à l'époque romaine. «On a essayé de travailler sur le thème du pouvoir chez la femme avec Julia Donna, qui a dominé l'Empire romain pendant plus d'un demi-siècle», explique Chérif Khaznadar, auteur et metteur en scène de la pièce de théâtre Julia Donna. Une pièce basée sur un monologue, celui d'une Syrienne devenue l'impératrice de Rome et l'épouse de Septime Sévère, qui raconte l'histoire de son règne. La déesse Ashtart et sa servante muette en sont eux les témoins. Au cours des trois représentations données à Jérash, l'actrice Mireille Maalouf et sa voix de tragédienne ont réussi à replacer à Jérash le texte de cette pièce au cœur de son époque, celle des Romains.

L'Histoire était elle aussi au centre du spectacle de la troupe Caracalla présentée au Palais de la Culture. «Elissa Reine de Carthage» est un ballet retraçant la vie d'une princesse phénicienne trahie par son frère Pygmalion et contrainte de fuir son pays. «Elissa reine de Carthage» est une combinaison de ballet classique et oriental. «Avec le mouvement spontané de la danse arabe, ce ballet est un mélange entre la technique occidentale et les gestes de notre folklore oriental», explique Abd el Halim Caracalla, le chorégraphe d'origine libanaise de ce spectacle.

Préserver culture et traditions

Après le théâtre et la danse,

le chant était lui aussi placé sous le signe de l'Histoire au festival de Jérash. Le Syrien Bashar Zarkan a chanté pendant deux soirées au Centre culturel royal pour Omar Ibn el Fard, le prince de l'amour divin de l'époque ayyubide. Un chant soufi inspiré de rythmes irakiens et syriens.

Un autre Syrien, Sabab Fakhr, a lui interprété du chant traditionnel de tarab devant une foule considérable rassemblée au théâtre Sud.

L'an de la troupe folklorique palestinienne Al Majid a elle aussi une vocation historique: celle de conserver la musique et les chansons de la Palestine. «Notre but est de préserver notre culture devant l'ennemi qui s'efforce d'éliminer notre civilisation», explique un des membres de cette troupe. Une partie du public retrouvait elle dans ce spectacle des chansons et des rythmes restés dans sa mémoire.

Pour la fin de cette semaine la chanteuse libanaise Najwa Karam arrive au théâtre Sud. Celle dont la voix est décrite comme venant des montagnes, devrait connaître le même succès populaire que Majdah el Roumi ou Moustafa Kamar. Beaucoup de jeunes viendront en effet à Jérash écouter ses chansons et danser sur sa musique.

Il conclurait ainsi un festival qui a connu pendant deux semaines des ambiances complètement différentes mais toutes un peu magiques grâce au cadre de Jérash. ■

Oroub el Abed

Festival 1996

L'Histoire retrouve sa place à Jérash

Parmi les nombreux spectacles qui ont eu lieu dans le cadre du festival de Jérash la semaine dernière, beaucoup avaient pour thème l'Histoire glorieuse des civilisations anciennes, et notamment celle des Romains.



L'édition 96 du festival de Jérash n'a plus que quelques jours à vivre. Les vieilles voies romaines retrouveront ensuite leur calme habituel.

La fin du festival de Jérash du 1er au 3 août

Au théâtre sud	Unis)	1er août
A partir de 20h30		La troupe de l'université de Jordanie
1/23 août		
La chanteuse Najwa Karam (Liban)		
Au théâtre Artémis		Au Forum
A partir de 20h30		A partir de 18h30
1er août		1/2 août
Le conservatoire national de musique (Jordanie)		La troupe Rozana (Jordanie)
2/3 août		1/2 août
La troupe chinoise d'art populaire (Chine)		La troupe de Huson-Irbid (Jordanie)
Au théâtre de sons et lumières		1/23 août
A partir de 20h30		La troupe Dalsha (Azerbaïdjan)
1er août		1/23 août
La troupe folklorique La famille internationale (Etats-Unis)		La troupe de danse folklorique de Tai-pei (Taiwan)
		1/23 août
		Le cirque Cinq étoiles (Etats-Unis)

Découverte

Les toqués du Dauphiné

Ardents défenseurs de la région du Dauphiné, Claude Muller et Jean-Pierre Chavant font découvrir sa cuisine autour du globe. Ils ont choisi pour 1996 la Jordanie.

Mélangez un tiers de cuisinier, un tiers de journaliste et un tiers d'organisatrice et vous obtiendrez une cuisine française itinéranse. La recette est simple et efficace. Depuis qu'ils ont décidé de mettre leurs compétences en commun, Jean-Pierre Chavant, maître cuisinier, et Claude Muller, journaliste, ont déjà parcouru une quinzaine de pays. Si leur programme touristique change à chaque fois, leur objectif principal reste le même: faire découvrir la cuisine dauphinoise. Tous deux originaires du Dauphiné, une région située dans le Sud-est de la France, ils ont décidé voilà seize ans de parcourir le monde avec dans leurs valises le maximum de produits locaux afin de donner un aperçu de leur cuisine-terroir.

Ces deux fine-bouches ont choisi cette année de mettre le cap sur la Jordanie. Une première séjour à la mi-juillet leur a permis d'organiser le rendez-vous culinaire dauphinois qui aura lieu à la mi-octobre à l'Hôtel Intercontinental d'Amman.

S'ils souhaitent faire découvrir la cuisine dauphinoise, ils désirent aussi la faire évoluer en la mélangeant à d'autres ingrédients provenant du pays qu'ils visitent.

«Je suis à la recherche de nouvelles saveurs et de nouveaux parfums», explique Jean-Pierre Chavant. Une exploration qui l'a amené dans le passé à goûter à toute sorte de plat. «Nous étions l'année dernière en Afrique du Sud où nous avons notamment dégusté du bison, du cobra et du rhinocéros.»

Des plats exotiques qui ne lui font cependant pas oublier sa cuisine dauphinoise. Lui et son compère Claude Muller sont en

effet d'ardents défenseurs et promoteurs de leur région et de ses richesses. Très au point dans leur numéro de duettistes, ils se plaisent à se chamailler sur la recette du gratin dauphinois, pour ensuite tomber d'accord sur les vertus de l'alcool de chartreuse, une boisson qui contient 132 extraits de plantes.

Plus que la cuisine française, ils aiment amener avec eux une certaine image de la France. Celle un peu désuète de la bien-séance et des bonnes manières. Membres tous deux de l'Association internationale de la cuisine française, ils espèrent d'ailleurs à l'occasion de leur prochaine venue dans le royaume hachémite décorer certaines personnes pour leur comportement louable et vertueux.

Une soixantaine de personnes devrait se joindre à eux au mois d'octobre pour venir visiter la Jordanie.

Ils auront notamment pour mission de transporter dans leurs valises des produits essentiels pour l'élaboration du repas dauphinois que Jean-Pierre Chavant préparera à Amman en collaboration avec le cuisinier français de l'Hôtel Intercontinental, Clément Soussa. Les deux hommes se sont d'ailleurs déjà mis d'accord sur une ébauche de menu qui devrait notamment comprendre de la langoustine et une noisette de veau aux morilles et à la crème. Un repas qui ne se fera pas sans le fameux gratin dauphinois sur lequel Jean-Pierre Chavant et Claude Muller auront tout loisir de dissenter devant une assemblée de gastronomes. ■

Olivier Bras



Mein Kampf reste depuis de longues années le livre le plus vendu à Amman par Abou Ali.



Installée en basse-ville, la librairie d'Abou Ali n'est pas seulement un kiosque à livres. C'est un lieu de rencontre pour beaucoup d'écrivains et d'intellectuels.

sur la cuisine jordanienne avec un sous-titre «Destiné aux jeunes femmes qui l'époque oblige à travailler comme les hommes», ce livre s'adressait aux jeunes travailleuses. D'une trentaine de pages, le début ne comprenait que des imprécations religieuses pour mettre en garde les jeunes femmes contre la tentation masculine. Suivaient ensuite cinq pages avec des conseils pour «garder son mari grâce au ventre». Cinquante recettes peu variées qui rappelaient au mari fatigué après le

travail que sa femme, elle aussi, travaillait comme les hommes.

Avec le temps, le kiosque d'Abou Ali a connu des transformations, et notamment l'arrivée du téléphone. Maintenant, tous attendent qu'ils passent à Internet. «Ca viendra certainement», répond Abou Ali en souriant. «Mais ce sera mon fils qui le fera marcher. Car moi, tout cela me dépasse!» ■

Ahmad Nsour

Activities

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British Council	6361478	Philadelphia Cinema	634144
French Cultural Centre	637009		
Goethe Institute	641993	Sports Clubs	
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Haya Arts Centre	665195	Royal Automobile Club	815410
Y.W.C.A.	641251	Royal Shooting Club	736572
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Alia Art Gallery	639303	Royal Racing Club	09-801233
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THE STAR'S WEEKLY COMPUTING & HIGH TECH NO

Edited by Zeid Nasser

Pin-pointing information on the Internet among the 30 to 50 million Web sites:

Finding a needle in a stack of hay

By Jawad Abbasi
Special to The Star

AS THE Internet is an amalgamation of thousands of computer networks all over the world, the information present on it—whether through USENET, WWW, FTP or Gopher services—is reflective of the different owners of these networks. The Internet's decentralized nature makes categorizing the exponentially increasing amounts of information a very daunting task. Moreover, the information on the Internet isn't to be taken as a flawless reference. After all, people can post information on the Internet through, say, a web page on the WWW—that isn't necessarily objective or correct.

Therefore, the Internet contains a flood of heterogeneous information ranging from accurate research papers and university academic insinuations, to information on how Elvis is still alive and watching us from Mars! Not only is the information on the Internet as diverse as humans are, but it remains a fuzzy cloud with no central and comprehensive indexing and categorization.

This needs not dismay us though, for two main reasons. Firstly, we do, after all, need a little chaos in our lives away from our orderly routine lives at

work. Secondly, which is the more valid reason, the Internet has some useful "guides" that work in categorizing and indexing new sites of information. These guides are usually a site on the Internet's WWW that users can visit and search for sites containing information on

the Internet. Yahoo! guide is the oldest popular guide and it provides categorization of many sites on the Internet, orderly listed in what Yahoo! owners call a "hierarchical subject-oriented" guide for the WWW and the Internet.

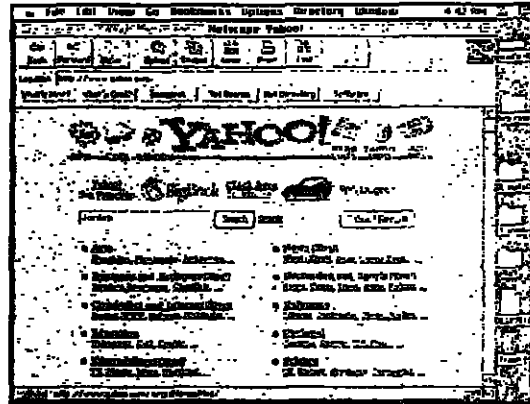
Yahoo! like all WWW guides, is a private business: companies buy advertisement space on the site. These advertisement spaces are attractive because of the many Internet users that visit Yahoo! every day to search for information (more than a million hits a day). Yahoo! doesn't contain any information of its own, it only provides links to web sites. The bulk of these links on Yahoo! come from web page authors themselves who register their web pages on Yahoo!.

A recent entrant to the guides on the world wide web is the Internet index developed by Digital by the name of Alta Vista (<http://www.altavista.com>). Alta Vista differs from conventional guides to the Internet like Yahoo! in that it collects the web sites by itself, rather than relying on web page registration. Alta Vista utilizes a web search engine called Scooter which collects new sites, and a scalable indexing software that indexes these sites. When Alta Vista started, it collected and indexed more than 2.4 million web sites per day and reached the number of 30 million. Thus, giving a

work. Secondly, which is the more valid reason, the Internet has some useful "guides" that work in categorizing and indexing new sites of information.

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the Internet. Yahoo! guide is the oldest popular guide and it provides categorization of many sites on the Internet, orderly listed in what Yahoo! owners call a "hierarchical subject-oriented" guide for the WWW and the Internet.



The trend towards free software grows

WE ARE headed at an ever increasing pace towards Object Oriented Programming (OOP) which promises to make programming easier than ever. Putting a program or a solution together will be just a matter of pasting together previously prepared program libraries.

What is even more interesting is Object Oriented Operating Systems (OOS). Putting together an operating system will also be a matter of pasting components together. All this means that development, time and costs will be minimal. Programming will be something that an ordinary computer user can do. The costs of developing computer programs will be reduced dramatically.

Corporate computer programs will be much smaller, easier to zip across phone lines and corporate LANs (which means lower distribution costs), and more task oriented. They will also require less customer support and training periods. The tools used to develop these programs (like OpenDoc and Java) support a feature called inheritance, which means that newer programs will support the same features that the original programs had in addition to any new features. This translates into lower development costs and minimal support.

The companies developing these tools (like Microsoft and Apple) are not hoping to make big money selling the software. Increasing competition and thir-

ing for dominance means that lower development costs will lead to lower prices. And, because programs will be developed using pre-programmed libraries, costs will be of a lesser concern. In addition, nothing new can be expected from traditional software like word processors and spreadsheets. The appearance and the workings of this software has become so standardized that nothing new is expected. The users of the future will be able to create their own customization on the fly.

The new programs will be able to deliver and view content and processing the software will be a lesser concern. Users will rent programs for as long as they use them. Internet browsers will be able to run these programs from their central location, some other programs will be of no use without the content they were made to process.

Arab software houses are feeling the effects of these new realities in the form of stiffer competition and little market share. So far Arab software houses have not started to realize that information is what makes software useful. We have seen so far very few companies taking the information highway and building Internet capabilities in their software for example.

By the time OOP programs gain dominance, "bloatware" programs will have lost their appeal and usefulness in most areas. The Network Computer

will replace the desktop in corporations, and Internet will be used to process and deliver information using little task-oriented programs called applets built with OOP.

The point is, in two to three years time, writing software to do our tasks for us will not be the jurisdiction of the masters in Redmond and Cupertino. Software will be the means of accessing and processing information and it will lose its current glamor. What I want to say that in this new world order, old issues like software piracy will change to cover things like patenting electronic data transfer methods and the copyrights to the digital media that is at the core of the Internet.

This is a result to be expected in a world where software is increasingly looked at as the means not the end. As to fields like games and entertainment, users will find that playing with other users over the network is more fun and can be more challenging.

The topics I wish that we address more are, how can we present content and information to the masses, how can we ease the flow of information in this country? how can we remove the bureaucratic obstacles that stand in their way, and at the same time protecting this information and the people producing it from potential abuses?

Jabra Farid Ghneim
Economic consultant &

U.S. Robotics announces Sportster Winmodem

U.S. ROBOTICS announced the Sportster Winmodem 28.8 Faxmodem for Windows.

The Sportster Winmodem offers ease of installation, lower cost, software upgradability and faster throughput.

Sportster Winmodem is designed to operate exclusively with Windows-based computers. The modem is "Plug-and-Play" compatible and features special Windows software drivers that automatically install the modem

and configure it for maximum performance. The Sportster Winmodem works with all Windows-based communications software.

Winmodem architecture emulates 16550 buffered UART, but isn't limited to the typical 115.2 Kbps maximum throughput. The interface allows Winmodem to take advantage of much higher compression ratios without adding costly interface cards or sacrificing overall system performance. The software-upgradable fea-

ture ensures the Sportster Winmodem will be able to incorporate the latest upgrades and features with a simple phone call.

A free software upgrade to 33.6 Kbps data speed is already available for download from the U.S. Robotics bulletin board.

For more information on the Sportster Winmodem and U.S. Robotics products, contact Saadi Communication Systems (SCS) at telefax 693333. ■

B.O.C. organizes Intranet conference

BUSINESS OPTIMIZATION Consultants (B.O.C.), the authorized distributor for Netscape products in Jordan and Palestine, organized the first Intranet Conference in Jordan last Tuesday, 30 July, 1996.

Mr. Jed Kleckner, the manager of Europe Intranet partners from Netscape-Paris, presented the utilization of Netscape products for Intranet applications. The conference will focus on Netscape's Internet & Intranet vision, building an Intranet solution and Intranet facts and benefits.

The conference was held in a seminar room at the Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel. The main topics discussed were Intranet solutions, contact for B.O.C. at telefax 613194. ■

Women's 100-meter race is a repeat performance

By Mike Penner
LA Times-Washington Post
News Service

ATLANTA—The women's Olympic 100-meter squabble—check that, the word they're using this year is "sprint"—was won again by Gail Devers, same as in 1992, in a photo finish, same as in 1992, to defeat American teammate Gwen Torrence and Jamaica's Merlene Ottey, same as in 1992.

Ottey and the Jamaican federation filed a protest after she and Devers both clocked in at 10.94 seconds, which sent the matter to the timing technicians, who studied the tape and broke the times down to the thousandth of a second before declaring Devers the winner, 10.932 seconds to 10.937.

Devers and Torrence, who finished third, took a victory lap together, laughing and skipping and hopping four years after Torrence had insinuated that Devers had cheated to win in Barcelona. In the feel-good interview session that followed, Devers and Torrence acted like long-lost buddies, carrying on as if Torrence had never accused "two of the three" runners who finished ahead of her in 1992 of being "dirty." Torrence never named names then, of course, but two of them were Devers and Ottey.

Ottey, whose name rhymes with haughty, and for apparent good reason, got in the face of an Olympic public relations official holding a tape recorder, demanding to know, "Are you an American journalist? Because if you are, I'm not going to talk to you!"

Ottey was distressed about many things. The way she saw the race, Devers' head crossed the finish line first but her torso finished second. "I believe it's the torso that counts," Ottey said. She also was stewing about losing this race to Devers in a virtual carbon copy of the 1993 World Championships—another photo finish, another victory by Devers by 0.001 of a second.

"It was one of those close



finishes and I lost again." Ottey groused. "I never get used to silver. ... I wish this race was 102 meters. If it was, I'd have won in a photo finish. But the race is 100 meters and the photo finish says that Gail is first. Which I am not sure about yet."

It will go into the books as Devers' second gold medal in as many Olympic 100-meter runs, making her the second woman in history to win this event in successive Olympics. Wyomia Tyus of the United States was the first to repeat, in 1964 and 1968.

Devers was well prepared for this piece of history, having painted her long, curling, talon-like fingernails gold just for the occasion. And, she was ready for questions about the Devers-Torrence feud, which she knew would be asked in the wake of their let's-make-nice jog around the Olympic Stadium track.

"Let me answer this question," Devers said, leaping toward the microphone in front of her and cutting off Torrence. "There is no rivalry between Gwen and me. We are competitors, and any time we are on the track together, it's a great show."

"A rivalry is something neg-

ative. When Gwen and I race, there is nothing negative about it."

Torrence, whose bronze-medal time was 10.96, willingly jumped in to lend support.

"I want to beat Gail, no question," Torrence said. "When Gail's at her best, I'm at my best. When I'm at my best, Gail's at her best. But when it is done, it is done. When you see us out there for 10 seconds, it's a war. But when it's over, it's over."

"I've never said anything bad about Merlene," Torrence maintained. "The only incident I can ever remember is in Göteborg after the 200."

That would be the one. At the 1993 World Championships in Göteborg, Sweden, Torrence won the 200 meters but was disqualified for stepping outside her lane, eliciting a charge of cheating from Ottey.

"I don't know Merlene," Torrence allowed. "We've never been friendly. She has her clique of friends. I have mine. But I like competing against Merlene. She's always in the thick of things. She sometimes disappoints in others."

"She's a very good competitor, even at the age of 36. What she's done at her age gives me something to look forward to."

Ottey, absolutely thrilled by this verbal olive branch, sat

two seats to the right of Torrence and stared at the back wall of the room, speechless and motionless.

"At least I got a silver medal," was the best Ottey could manage. "It's better than all the bronzes I have collected over the years."

Carl Lewis shows his flair for dramatic

By Peter Schmuck
LA Times-Washington Post
News Service

ATLANTA—Olympic icon Carl Lewis still has that certain something. Call it charisma. Call it a flair for the dramatic. Call it one more chance to bask in the Olympic spotlight.

Lewis called on something deep inside himself Sunday night and provided one of the most exciting moments of the Olympic track and field competition with a last-chance long jump that took him from 15th to first place in his preliminary group.

The stage was set for his exit from Olympic competition. He appeared to be well out of range of Monday night's long-jump final, especially after he ran through his second of three attempts in the preliminary

round. He had one last jump to qualify... and he sailed 27 feet, 2 1/2 inches to qualify ahead of everyone.

"I went from struggling to make the final round to being very confident about my chances (Monday night)," Lewis said.

His final jump even overshadowed two American medal performances.

Charles Austin of Texas won a gold medal and set an Olympic record by clearing the bar at 7 feet, 10 inches in the high jump, and Wyoming's Lance Deal won a silver medal in the hammer throw, becoming the first U.S. athlete to medal in that event in 40 years.

Both were uplifting performances, but Austin's victory was no surprise, and Deal's event does not exactly capture

the imagination of American sports fans.

Lewis is another story. He's a lot of other stories. He was the dominant personality in the 1984 Los Angeles Games, winning the 100-meter dash, the 200-meter dash, the long jump and being part of the victorious 4x100 relay.

He came back in 1988 to win the 100 and the long jump, and he earned his third straight long jump gold. In addition to another relay gold, at Barcelona in 1992.

Now, he suddenly looks like a candidate for four, even though he came into this Olympics looking like more of a human interest story than a real threat to upend American teammate Joe Greene, who finished just behind Lewis with a jump of 27-2, and Mike Powell, who qualified first in the other preliminary group at 26-11.

Powell still has to be considered the favorite. He's the world-record holder, and Greene has been right on his heels since they finished second and third behind Lewis in Barcelona. But Lewis proved he still has something left—maybe a lot more than anyone imagined.

"I have a lot of confidence now," Lewis said. "I just have to go out and jump at the beginning the way I did at the end tonight. I don't think that jump will win, but every time I've led after the Olympic qualifying round, I've won."

"I know I can go 28 feet (today). I have to feel like I have a lot more distance, because I didn't even go off the board on my last jump."

That's true. He was just trying to make sure he didn't foul. He had jumped 26 feet and then pulled up on his first try and then pulled up on the second, leaving himself with no margin for error on the final attempt. Foul and your Olympic career is over. Foul and you cry alone. Somebody asked him after-



ward if it occurred to him on the runway that he might be about to make the last jump of his career.

"That thought came through, but it came through a little different," he said. "The thought was, I didn't want this to be my last jump in the Olympics."

"I want to go out with my best effort. I feel that my best effort is as good as anybody's. I came in with confidence that I could do well at this meet and that confidence has been boosted."

Lewis faced the same challenge as swimming star Janet Evans last week. She was trying to make magic in her last Olympic appearance but struggled to qualify in her final event and finished sixth in the 800-meter freestyle. That's not the way Lewis wants to go out—that much was obvious Sunday night.

In the high-jump competition, Austin had missed on two consecutive jumps at 7 feet, 9 1/4 inches when he decided it was time to move the bar higher.

"That's how I am," Austin said. "I try to get that height in my mind before I even go out and jump. I don't consider playing poker."

Whatever you want to call it, Austin cleared the next height for an Olympic record of 7-10 and became the first American since Dick Fosbury in 1968 to win the high jump.

"I was not concentrating on win, win, win," Austin said. "I just wanted to have fun." Austin had an easier time after Javier Sotomayor of Cuba, the defending gold medalist and only man to clear 8 feet, failed on three consecutive attempts at 7-7 1/4. Sotomayor, hampered by a sore left ankle, wound-up in a tie for 11th. ■



● Syrian women heptathlon gold medalist Ghada Shouaa, 23, celebrates her victory in Atlanta's Olympic Stadium on Monday.